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OF POOLE

# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

*On the Health and Sanitary Circumstances  
of the Borough and Port of Poole*

FOR THE YEAR

**1947**

GEORGE CHESNEY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health of the Borough and Port of Poole



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GEORGE CHESNEY, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health of the Borough and Port of Poole

Medical Superintendent Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital

Medical Officer to the Committee for Education

Public Health Department


Municipal Buildings

Poole



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## PREFACE

Public Health Department,  
Municipal Buildings,  
Poole.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough and County of the Town of Poole.*

In accordance with my statutory duty I submit for your information and consideration my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough and Port of Poole for the year 1947. It is prepared in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health which prescribe the duties of the Medical Officer of Health. The form of presentation suggested in Circular 1728 of the 25th October, 1938, has been followed. The Report is divided into the following parts :—

### PART I

- A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- D. Housing.
- E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- F. Prevalence and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.

### PART II

Report to the Port Health Authority on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of

- (a) Poole Marine Airport.
- (b) Poole Seaport.

### PART III

Report to the Local Education Authority on the School Health Services in the Borough of Poole.

Apart from an outbreak of poliomyelitis the health of the borough during the year 1947 was satisfactory, the incidence of and mortality rate due to infectious diseases being low. During the second half of the year an epidemic of poliomyelitis swept through the country and there were 15 cases in the borough, of whom 3 died,

There were several cases in which residual paralysis occurred. As the diagnosis of this disease is difficult in the early stages, arrangements were made at the onset of the outbreak for the admission to hospital of all suspected cases.

There were only 5 cases of mild diphtheria in 1947 and no deaths. Active immunisation against this killing disease is consistently maintained, particularly in the group of children under school age.

It is with particular satisfaction I report that although in 1947 the number of births in the borough was 1667, the highest ever recorded, the infantile mortality rate fell to the low record figure of 22.2. This rate contrasts sharply with a rate of 192.1 in 1885, 131 in 1900, 82 in 1910, 75 in 1920, 57.6 in 1936 and 51.8 in 1940. The rate of 36.1 for 1946 was then a low record for the borough and this has been substantially improved on in 1947. The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales was 41.

The housing shortage presents a health problem of magnitude and urgency, as the many cases of overcrowding constitute a danger of impairment to health. The need for priority and speed in the provision of new houses need not be emphasised again.

The preparations for the Appointed Day of the National Health Service Act, 1946, a medico-social adventure of unpredictable significance, the re-organisation of the Health Department following the transfer to the Dorset County Council, as the Local Health Authority, of many of the duties previously carried out by the Borough of Poole, the fulfilment of many new duties, and the extension of the existing services have all contributed to the delay in the production of this Report. No excuse, however, is offered for the delay, as I hope it will be appreciated that the carrying into effect of the many changes brought about by the National Health Service Act of necessity took priority over the preparation of this Report.

I wish to thank the Chairmen and Members of the Committees for their kindness and consideration at all times, my fellow officers in other departments, and the staff of the Health Department for their help and co-operation during the year. My thanks are also due to my medical colleagues for their contribution to the preparation of this report and to the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who prepared the sections dealing with Sanitary Circumstances, Housing and Food.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE CHESNEY. M.D., D.P.H.

January, 1949,



## COMMITTEES AND STAFF, 1947

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND PORT HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Chairman* : His Worship The Mayor, Councillor D. A. HAYNES, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor C. SNOWDEN

*Aldermen* :

F. J. BACON, J.P.

J. BRIGHT, J.P.

*Councillors* :

C. T. APLIN

S. D. BALLAM

F. BRASINGTON

F. V. CRAWSHAW

A. B. HAYNES

E. A. R. HEBLEY

Mrs. E. M. HICKINSON

Miss M. M. LLEWELLIN, J.P.

F. C. REEVES, M.M.

J. W. RUSSELL, J.P.

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### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

*Chairman* : Councillor Miss M. M. LLEWELLIN, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman* : Councillor Mrs. D. A. GODSELL

*Councillors* :

F. BRASINGTON

A. N. BUTLER

Miss J. WHEATLEY

A. B. HAYNES

Mrs. E. M. HICKINSON

Mrs. K. A. M. MACANDREW, J.P.

*Co-opted Members* :

Miss COOMBES

Mrs. JARVIS

Mrs. RICHARDS

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### PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health*  
*Port Medical Officer*  
*School Medical Officer*

} GEORGE CHESNEY, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer*  
*of Health and Deputy*  
*Port Medical Officer*

} MES A. SINCLAIR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officers* :

JOAN P. MOIGNARD, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., M.R.C.O.G.  
ALASTAIR C. MACKENZIE, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Dental Officer* :

K. G. HYLAND, L.D.S.

*Dental Officers* :

W. K. RIMMER, L.D.S.  
R. ALLEN, L.D.S.

*Senior Sanitary Inspector* :

R. LEGGAT, Cert. as S.I. and M.I.

<i>Sonitory Inspectors :</i>	C. A. TRIM, Cert. as S.I., and M.I. J. POWER, Cert. as S.I. and M.I. C. GLOVER, Cert. as S.I. and M.I. G. H. WOODLANDS, A.M.I.S.E., Cert. as S.I. and M.I.
<i>Rodent Officer :</i>	G. W. SKEGGS
<i>Lay Administrative Assistant :</i>	J. M. O'HARA, M.B.E.,
<i>Motron Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital :</i>	Miss E. M. DUNN, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M.
<i>Supt. Health Visitor and Supervisor of Midwives :</i>	Miss M. M. KINGSBURY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.
<i>Health Visitors and School Nurses :</i>	Miss H. BROOKS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss I. KOSTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss V. M. KUSEL, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss L. B. LEVER, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N. Mrs. V. NARBETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss M. PHILLIPS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Mrs. M. M. STAPLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C.
<i>Municipal Midwives :</i>	Miss I. BELLRINGER, S.R.N., S.C.M. Mrs. D. COLLINGS, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss L. FORREST, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss D. M. GRENET, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss G. H. MAYNARD, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss M. O'LEARY, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss J. ROBERTS, S.C.M. Miss F. C. STEIN, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss E. TUGWELL, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss B. B. TYNDALE-BISCOE, S.R.N., S.C.M.
<i>Dental Attendants :</i>	Miss G. FORREST Miss R. NICHOLLS Miss M. EMES
<i>Chief Clerk :</i>	F. B. EDWARDS

*Clerks :*

Miss E. I. TAPPER	Miss R. M. EDWARDS
Miss K. D. CODD	Mrs. M. FOWLER
Miss P. E. A. GILES	C. A. FOX
D. J. CARTRIDGE	L. W. MATON
Miss P. H. STEVENS	F. LEE
Miss C. COLEMAN	A. GEE

**CONSULTANT AND PART TIME SPECIALISTS**

<i>Obstetrical Consultant and Consultant under Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations</i>	S. GORDON LUKER, M.A., M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.
<i>Consultant Physician :</i>	HAROLD COOKSON, M.D., F.R.C.P.
<i>Consultant Surgeon :</i>	F. P. FORREST, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon :</i>	E. R. BOWES, M.B., B.S., D.O.M.S.

<i>Orthopaedic Surgeons :</i>	H. H. LANGSTON, F.R.C.S. N. ROSS SMITH, M.B., Ch.M., F.R.C.S.
<i>Nose and Throat Surgeons :</i>	A. MACKENZIE ROSS, M.D., Ch.B., D.L.O. C. R. SALKELD, B.A., F.R.C.S.
<i>Radiologist :</i>	D. D. MALPAS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
<i>Anaesthetist :</i>	J. A. C. NORMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
<i>Dental Surgeon :</i>	R. G. S. HOLMES, L.D.S. (Rtd. 30.9.47)
<i>Public Analyst :</i>	R. P. CHARLES, M.D., F.R.I.C. A. S. CARLOS, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S.
<i>Veterinary Surgeon :</i>	J. S. WOOD, M.R.C.V.S.

#### **MEDICAL AUXILIARIES**

<i>Physiotherapist :</i>	Mrs. D. BEALE, M.C.S.P.
<i>Orthoptist :</i>	Miss J. RICHARDSON, D.B.O.
<i>Speech Therapist :</i>	Miss N. O'DRISCOLL, L.C.S.T.

**PART I****SECTION A****GENERAL STATISTICS.**

- (1) Area of Borough. 15,641 acres, not including 2,220 acres of tidal waters and foreshore.
- (2) Population (a) As at Census, 1931 ... 57,211  
 (b) As estimated by Registrar-General at 30th June, 1947 ... 78,720  
 (c) National Registration, 1939 ... 77,954
- (3) Total number of Inhabited Houses (from Rate Book)  
 As at December, 1945 ... 21,490  
 As at December, 1946 ... 21,542  
 As at December, 1947 ... 22,340
- (4) Rateable Value at 1st April, 1947 ... £659,527  
 Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... £2,609

**SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND UNEMPLOYMENT.**

For recent years the condition of the labour market has been as shown below :—

Year	Average of Unemployment	Unemployment as at December	Relief as at December
1943	84	78	502
1944	71	100	599
1945	69	299	608
1946	246	342	728
1947	360	430	827

**PHYSICAL FEATURES.**

*The following description of the physical features of the Borough is reproduced from the Report of the Medical Officer of Health, Poole, for the year 1938.*

The Borough of Poole occupies the extreme south-east corner of the County of Dorset, and is the largest Town in the County. The Town and the area within a radius of 10 miles contain nearly half of the total population of the County of approximately 240,000.

The plateau of Parkstone and Branksome behind the older parishes of Poole, Longfleet and Hamworthy, rises sharply at Constitution Hill and Newtown in the West, and continues East to Canford Cliffs, Branksome Park and the Eastern boundary of the Borough, which is also the County Boundary between Dorset and Hampshire.

To the northward of the plateau, the ground slopes gradually to river level at the Stour. In this latter watershed, however, is found the highest portion of the Borough, viz., Broadstone and the eastern end of the Corfe Hills.

As to geological formation, the parish of St. James is situated in alluvium ; that of Hamworthy on valley gravel, Bagshot beds and plateau gravel. Sandbanks is of blown sand. In Parkstone and Branksome the geological stratum is mainly the Bagshot beds of sand, brick-earth, pipe-clay, and lignite, with many pockets of plateau gravel. The Reading beds, lying below the above-mentioned strata, separate them from the chalk, which, although it comes to the surface to north-west of the town, at Coombe Alner, does not outcrop within the Borough.

The extensive enclosed waters of the Harbour, sheltered themselves by the Purbeck Hills, exert a controlling influence on the temperature, rendering the surrounding areas cool in summer and tempering the cold in winter. Hence the Town escapes many of the damp sea mists to which the coast line is subject.

The dependability of its general climatic conditions is now being more fully recognised, and the Town is rapidly increasing in popularity as an all-the-year round Health Resort, especially by people who have spent many years in tropical or sub-tropical countries.

An abundance of pine woods serves to maintain and to enhance the value of an equable climate, and to give the district a high claim as a recuperative centre for those liable to Bronchitis and Asthma.

The quite exceptional rate of development which has been a marked feature of the last ten years also unfortunately brings with it the threat of diminution of the pine-clad areas. It should therefore be the desire and the practice of every owner of ground in the Borough—and the Corporation itself is a land-owner—to see that no tree be sacrificed where this can reasonably be avoided, knowing that the Town will be for ever the poorer. The Hills and the Harbour may be said to defy time ; but if Poole will maintain its pride, it must preserve its pines.

It is interesting to record that only about thirty years ago the first blades of rice grass (*Spartina Townsendii*), which now covers some square miles of the Harbour, were found there. As a natural shore-binder this grass is of considerable value, and is being elsewhere used as an assistant in reclaiming low-lying foreshore land. A cliff-binder also has been brought to the assistance of work against coast-erosion, in the form of the "kaffir-fig" or *Mesembryanthemum*, which grows rapidly into a matted defence against the attrition of the wind.

The River Stour, mentioned above, for over five miles of its winding course eastwards forms the northern boundary of the Town. In this course, it collects minor watercourses, chief of which is a tributary stream rising at Dunyeats Hill, flowing through the village of Canford Magna, and entering the Stour in the direction of Hampreston.

### METEOROLOGY.

*I am indebted to Mr. A. C. Marsh, F.B.O.A., F.R.Met. Soc., for the following notes on the weather in Poole during 1947.*

A general survey of the weather conditions during 1947 shows it to be rather below the standard usually experienced here. Sunshine was 158 hours below average and rainfall 7.04 inches below. Mean temperature was about the average.

The severe wintry weather prevailing in all parts of the country during January and February was felt here to a lesser degree ; March was outstanding as the wettest on record.

April was up to standard, but May was deficient in sunshine.

June and July were pleasant and sunny, with sunshine totals about the average and were ideal summer months.

August was brilliant, with cloudless skies, tropical temperatures, its high sunshine total being over 70 hours above the average ; its maximum temperature of 93 degrees being a record.

September was pleasant, but not quite up to average, but outstanding for its ending of a drought of 32 days.

October, too, was quite a good month, with sunshine about the average, but notable for the absence of rain and, a rather remarkable feature, a record drought period of 30 days commenced in September.

November was notable for its mildness, mean temperature being over 4 degrees above the average, but cloudy, unsettled.

December, usually the wettest month, had a rainfall total nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches below the average, a drought of 16 days, but temperature about normal.



# SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947

As supplied by the Registrar General

				Total	Male	Female
<b>Live Births</b>						
Total registered	...	...	...	1667	835	832
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	1550	780	770
Illegitimate...	...	...	...	117	55	62
<b>Stillbirths</b>						
Total registered	...	...	...	30	15	15
Legitimate ...	...	...	...	29	15	14
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	Nil.	1
<b>Deaths</b>						
Total registered	...	...	...	975	467	508
<b>Maternal Mortality</b>						
Deaths from puerperal causes :						
Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	Nil.	—	Nil.
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	Nil.	—	Nil.
Total	...	...	...	Nil.	—	Nil.
<b>Deaths from Special Causes</b>						
Cancer	...	...	...	154	64	90
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Measles	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Diphtheria	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
<b>Infant Mortality</b>						
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age :						
Total registered	...	...	...	37	20	17
Legitimate	...	...	...	32	17	15
Illegitimate	...	...	...	5	3	2

	<i>Comparative Statistics (Where available)</i>	
	<i>Poole</i>	<i>England &amp; Wales</i>
<b>Birth Rate</b> per 1,000 estimated resident population, mid-1947 ... ..	21.18	20.50
<b>Stillbirth Rate</b> per 1,000 population ...	0.38	0.50
<b>Death Rate</b> per 1,000 estimated average population ... ..	12.39	12.00
<b>Maternal Mortality Rate</b> per 1,000 total (live and still) births		
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	Nil.	0.16
Other causes ... ..	Nil.	0.85
Abortion with sepsis ... ..	Nil.	0.10
Abortion without sepsis ... ..	Nil.	0.06
<b>Death Rate of Infants</b> under 1 year of age		
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	22.19	41.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	20.65	—
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	44.64	—
<b>Death Rates</b> per 1,000 estimated average population		
Tuberculosis—pulmonary ...	0.46	—
non-pulmonary ...	0.11	—
Cancer ... ..	1.96	—
Measles ... ..	Nil.	0.01
Diphtheria ... ..	Nil.	0.01
Enteritis (under 2 years) per 1,000 live births ... ..	Nil.	5.80



## VITAL STATISTICS

Year	Mid-Year Population	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	Per 1,000 of Population				
			Birth Rate	Marriage Rate	Death Rate (Uncor- rected)	Cancer Death Rate	Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate
1900	18991	131	27.7		15.3	1.3	0.9
1905	21804	113	26.7		15.7	0.8	1.3
1910	34268	82	26.0	15.4	12.7	1.1	1.1
1915	42800	93	18.7	18.6	13.2	0.9	0.8
1920	43400	75	23.6	22.0	10.8	1.2	0.9
1925	46150	71.7	18.1	16.7	11.7	1.6	0.71
1930	56150	57.6	16.7	15.4	12.39	1.87	0.85
1935	65600	44.0	16.0	16.8	11.7	1.84	0.79
1940	72820	51.8	14.0	20.1	13.1	2.02	0.51
1941	69960	53.5	15.0	19.0	13.5	2.0	0.51
1942	69940	47.0	17.6	18.7	13.5	1.8	0.56
1943	68200	37.0	17.0	15.8	14.1	2.1	0.44
1944	67810	36.9	19.9	14.8	13.06	1.97	0.54
1945	69880	53.6	18.1	21.1	12.9	2.23	0.43
1946	76330	36.1	19.6	18.37	12.26	1.52	0.59
1947	78720	22.2	21.2	19.2	12.4	1.96	0.46
England & Wales 1947	42,424,000	41.0	20.5	18.8	12.0	—	—

# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1947

(Supplied by the Registrar General)

<i>Causes of Death</i>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total ALL ages</i>
1.	Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	19	17	36
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	3	6	9
8.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	1	1	2
9.	Influenza	...	...	2	1	3
10.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	—	2	2
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—
13.	(M) Cancer of Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus	...	...	5	—	5
	(F) Cancer of Uterus	...	...	—	5	5
14.	Cancer of the Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	11	20	31
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	—	15	15
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	48	50	98
17.	Diabetes	...	...	3	5	8
18.	Intra-Cranial Vascular Disease	...	...	50	80	130
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	143	162	305
20.	Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	18	19	37
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	25	11	36
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	13	19	32
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	10	2	12
24.	Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	13	1	14
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	3	1	4
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	...	17	12	29
28.	Nephritis	...	...	12	8	20
29.	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Premature Births	...	...	5	3	8
32.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	14	15	29
33.	Suicide	...	...	5	4	9
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	5	5	10
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	...	9	15	24
36.	All other Causes	...	...	33	29	62
TOTAL ...				467	508	975

## SECTION B

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

## Public Health Laboratories

Facilities for the examination of public health specimens are available at the County Laboratory, Dorchester, under the direction of Dr. T. V. Cooper, County Pathologist, and at the Municipal Buildings, Poole, under the direction of Dr. G. J. G. King. I wish to thank the County Pathologists for their advice and assistance, which were always gladly given.

During the year 1947, a total of 6,376 tests were carried out at the branch laboratory, Poole.

## Ambulance Services

The Borough Ambulance Service operates from Burlea Towers Ambulance Depot, 55 Parkstone Road, Poole (Telephone, Poole 294), and is available day and night.

The staff at the 31st December, 1947, was one Ambulance Supervisor and 9 ambulance drivers, all experienced first-aid men. The ambulance vehicles available were three ambulances and one car for sitting cases and an ambulance trailer used as a mortuary van. Of the three ambulances in use during 1947 two were used for general ambulance services and the third was used mainly for infectious disease cases, the latter having been taken over from the I.D. Hospital as from 1st May, 1946, and based at Burlea Towers.

During the year the total number of cases transported was 3,078 and the total mileage covered was 20,274 miles.

	Cases	Mileage covered
Accident Cases (Road and Works) ... ..	196	894
Street Illness ... ..	45	188
Cases transported to and from Cornelia Hospital from Langran Ward and Extension at Alderney ... ..	1066	3904
Emergency Cases (Maternity, Surgical and Medical cases) ... ..	1427	10538
Number of times Ambulance called out and then not required ... ..	15	98
Conveyance of Dead Persons ... ..	73	414
Conveyance of Infectious Diseases Cases	256	4238
Totals ... ..	3078	20274

In addition to the mileage of the ambulance vehicles, 7,065 miles were covered by the ambulance car. The car was used for the conveyance of sitting cases to and from hospital and to special clinics, and for the conveyance of emergency stores and equipment to hospitals and clinics. The total mileage covered by the vehicles based at the Burlea Towers Depot was 27,339 miles.

During the year an old ambulance, no longer suitable for the conveyance of patients, was used for the collection of bedding, etc., from cases of infectious disease. The mileage run on this work was 5,965 miles.

### **Home Nursing**

Home Nursing in the Borough of Poole is provided by the Poole District Nursing Association with its staff of one Nursing Superintendent, 7 whole-time and 2 part-time Nurses.

The Association has no Nurses' Home, but its Headquarters at 464 Ashley Road, Parkstone (Telephone Parkstone 1948) have been specially adapted to provide office accommodation, a Nursing Centre with a District Room, storage for equipment and supplies and a flat for the superintendent. A garage at the rear accommodates four cars.

The Association employs Queen's District Nurses and is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. It has adopted the salary recommendations of the Nurses' Salaries Committee, and is a participating member of the Federated Superannuation Scheme.

The Association undertakes all kinds of general nursing and the demand for the services of its Nurses increases year by year. Formerly District Nursing Associations were mainly concerned with nursing of the sick poor, but with the changing conditions of modern times and the shortage of private Nurses, the District Nursing Service has been extended to nearly all sections of the community. While the bulk of the nursing is in respect of members of the Contributory Scheme and their dependants, the original object of District Nursing Associations is never lost sight of—that of providing skilled nursing in their own homes for the sick poor and those unable to have the services of a private nurse. Increasing use of the Service is made by doctors and the local hospitals.

The following districts of Poole are covered by the activities of the Association :—

Old Town, Hamworthy, Longfleet, Oakdale, Broadstone, Upper Parkstone, Central Parkstone, Lilliput, Sandbanks, Branksome and Canford Cliffs.

The work undertaken in 1947 is summarised below :—

Total Visits paid during year ...	...	...	27,733
Number of cases attended ...	...	...	1,045

Of these visits, over 22,000 were given free to members of the Contributory Scheme and their dependants, and to Public Assistance Cases. The remainder were given to patients paying fees for their attention.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres

### (a) School Clinics

67 Market Street, Poole.	Daily 9-10 during school sessions
Council Buildings, Branksome	
Hamworthy School, Blandford Road, Hamworthy	Tuesdays, and Fridays 9-10 during school sessions

### (b) Ante-Natal Clinics

67 Market Street, Poole	Mondays, 2 p.m.	} By Appointment
Council Buildings, Branksome	Fridays, 10.30 a.m.	
Cornelia Hospital	Weekly—Thursday afternoons	

### (c) Post-Natal Clinics

67 Market Street, Poole	Tuesdays fortnightly 11 a.m.
Council Buildings, Branksome	Tuesdays fortnightly 11 a.m.

### (d) Infant Welfare Centres

*67 Market Street, Poole	Wednesdays 10.30 a.m.
Council Buildings, Branksome	Tuesday and Friday 2 p.m.
*Church Hall, Creekmoor	2nd Tuesday (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Methodist Church Hall, Wallisdown	4th Tuesday (monthly), 2 p.m.
*Methodist School Room, Broadstone	2nd Thursday (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Newtown Evangelical Hall, Ringwood Road	1st and 3rd Thursdays (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Village Hall, Canford Cliffs	4th Tuesday (monthly) 2 p.m.
*St. George's Hall, Oakdale	1st and 3rd Tuesdays (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Hamworthy School	2nd and 4th Wednesdays (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Longfleet Congregational Church Hall	1st and 3rd Wednesdays (monthly) 2 p.m.
*Church of Good Shepherd, Rossmore	2nd and 4th Thursdays (monthly) 10.30 a.m.
*St. Peter's Hall, Parkstone	2nd and 4th Mondays (monthly), 2 p.m.

### (e) Diphtheria Immunisation

67 Market Street, Poole	Monday, fortnightly 10.30 a.m.
Council Buildings, Branksome	Wednesday, fortnightly 2.30 p.m.

*and at the Child Welfare Clinics marked \* above*

- (f) **Orthopaedic Clinic**  
67 Market Street, Poole  
Four Sessions Weekly
- (g) **Ophthalmic Clinic**  
Torvaine, St. Peter's Road,  
Parkstone  
Two sessions weekly
- (h) **Orthoptic Clinic**  
Torvaine, St. Peter's Road,  
Parkstone  
Thursday, 9.30 a.m.
- (i) **Speech Therapy Clinic**  
Torvaine, St. Peter's Road,  
Parkstone  
Friday, 10 a.m.
- (j) **Venereal Diseases Clinic**  
Cornelia Hospital  
Women—Tuesdays, 5 p.m.  
Men—Fridays, 5 p.m.

**Hospitals**

<b>General Hospital (Voluntary)</b>				
Cornelia and East Dorset Hospital, Longfleet Road, Poole		Medical, Surgical and Children's		
		Beds	...	152
		Maternity Beds	...	21
<b>Infectious Diseases Hospital</b>				
Alderney Hospital, Ringwood Road, Parkstone		Infectious Disease Beds		
			...	80
<b>Public Assistance Institution</b>				
Longfleet Gardens, Poole		Infirmary Beds		
			...	105
<b>Tuberculosis Sanatorium</b>				
Dorset County Home, Castle Hill, Parkstone		Tuberculosis Beds (Female cases)		
			...	31



## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

### Organisation

The Medical Officer of Health is also the Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare. He is assisted by the Deputy Medical Officer, the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, the Supervisor of Midwives and Superintendent Health Visitor, seven Health Visitors and ten Midwives.

### Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics

Municipal ante-natal clinics are held weekly at both Poole and Branksome Child Welfare Clinics for the benefit of expectant mothers under the care of the Municipal Midwives. Patients are referred by their midwife on booking, and attend regularly as often as necessary throughout their pregnancy. All patients are seen by appointment, both for the first time and for follow-up attendances, so that overcrowding at the clinic and a long period of waiting are avoided.

The Medical Officer attends each clinic session and sees all cases. So far as their work permits, the midwives attend the clinics with their patients, and receive written reports on each one after the first attendance, and after follow-up visits when required.

By arrangement with the County Pathologist and the National Blood Transfusion Service at Bristol, routine Wasserman and Kahn tests, blood grouping and Rh. investigations are done in every case.

Cases are referred to Cornelia Hospital Ante-natal Clinic when necessary, for the Specialist's opinion, or for admission to a maternity bed. By arrangement with the hospital, cases requiring X-ray are referred to and a report received from the Radiological Department at the hospital.

Post-natal Clinics are held fortnightly at both Poole and Branksome Clinics. Every patient who attended the ante-natal clinic is given an appointment for a post-natal examination between six and eight weeks after delivery.

The number of patients attending the ante- and post-natal clinics during 1947 was :—

Clinic	Ante-natal		Post-natal	
	Ist attendance	Total	Ist attendance	Total
Poole	242	613	50	59
Branksome	173	595	60	62

### Cornelia Hospital Ante- and Post-natal Clinic

	Referred by		
	M.O.H.	General Practitioners	Practising Midwives
<b>Ante-natal Outpatients</b> No. of individual outpatients resident in the Borough who attended the Ante-natal Clinic ... ..	39	521	3
Total attendances of above ...	116	1947	3
<b>Inpatients</b> No. of expectant mothers resident in the Borough admitted to the Maternity Ward as a result of the above ... ..	16	301	—
<b>Post-natal Outpatients</b> No. of individual outpatients resident in the Borough who attended the Post-natal Clinic ... ..	10	215	—
Total attendances of above	11	235	—

### Midwives' Acts, 1902 - 1936

The following table is inserted for observation of progress in reduction of maternal mortality, stillbirths, neonatal deaths and infant deaths under 1 year.

Year	Total Births	DOMICILIARY BIRTHS		Institutional Births	Hospital births under scheme	Hospital Emergency Admissions under scheme	Medical Aid Summonses	Maternal Deaths	Neo-natal Deaths	Stillbirths
		Midwives	Maternity Nurses							
1939	1045	498	300	247	123	24	73	3	27	24
1940	1046	472	276	298	76	23	68	4	20	45
1941	1082	418	248	416	75	18	48	3	26	36
1942	1265	532	266	467	37	13	42	2	32	45
1943	1178	394	233	551	35	12	45	4	28	31
1944	1327	486	344	497	72	18	34	—	28	37
1945	1258	425	307	566	68	11	28	2	40	33
1946	1541	491	346	704	51	8	46	4	36	45
1947	167	661	391	615	79	7	69	—	33	30



During the year 1947 the midwives summoned medical aid in 69 cases. An analysis of the conditions necessitating the attendance of a doctor is given below.

### 1. For the mother

Placenta praevia ...	...	1
Retained placenta ...	...	3
Antepartum haemorrhage		2
Postpartum ..		2
Threatened abortion ...	...	1
Miscarriage ...	...	2
Ruptured perineum ...	...	27
Delayed labour ...	...	8
Forceps delivery ...	...	1
Vaginal haematoma ...	...	1
Bartholin's ulcer ...	...	1
Hernia ...	...	1
Albuminuria ...	...	1
Premature labour ...	...	1
Puerperal pyrexia ...	...	5
Mal-presentations ...	...	6
Twins ...	...	2

---

65

### 2. For the infant

Prematurity ...	...	1
Sudden illness ...	...	1
Ophthalmia ...	...	1
Unsatisfactory condition		
of cord ...	...	1

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4

At the end of 1947 there were practising in the Borough 10 Municipal, 9 Private and 14 Institutional midwives—a total of 33.

### Maternal Mortality

There were no maternal deaths in the Borough during 1947.

### Infantile Mortality

There were 1,667 live births in the Borough and 37 deaths of infants under 1 year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 22.2. This is the lowest infant death rate ever recorded in the Borough, that for 1946, itself a record, being 36.1.

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

There were 4 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum during 1947. 1 baby was nursed at home and 3 in hospital. There was no impairment of vision in any case.

### **Analgesia in Domiciliary Midwifery**

A "Minnitt" Gas and Air apparatus is kept at the Ambulance Station, available for use by the Municipal Midwives in suitable cases. At the beginning of 1947, 4 midwives held the requisite certificate for the administration of gas and air to women in labour, one underwent the training required and obtained her certificate during the year. During 1947, 6 patients received gas and air analgesia during labour.

### **Premature Babies**

During 1947, 67 premature babies were born in the Borough, 24 at home, 43 in hospital. Of these, 7 died during the first twenty-four hours of life, and 3 others before attaining the age of one month, leaving 57 alive at the end of that time.

A draughtproof cot with flannel sheets, and an electric blanket is provided for cases in the district. The midwives and health visitors co-operate in the care of premature infants, the health visitor being notified of the case and paying her first call before the midwife finishes her visits.

### **Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases**

The Cornelia and East Dorset Hospital has twenty-one maternity beds. Under the Borough Maternity Scheme, cases who, for medical reasons, are unsuitable for home confinement are admitted to these beds. Owing to the shortage of housing, lack of suitable accommodation at home has made it necessary for a number of cases to be admitted to hospital for confinement on social grounds. During 1947, 615 patients were admitted to the maternity wards, of whom 79 came under the Borough Scheme, 45 for medical reasons, 34 on account of their social circumstances.

### Admissions to Hospital under Borough Maternity Scheme, 1947

No. of Admissions	Reason for Admission	No. of Deliveries		Total
		Live Births	Stillbirths	
34	Social circumstances ... ..	37	1	38
1	Contracted Pelvis ... ..	1	—	1
8	Emergency ... ..	6	1	7
1	Anaemia ... ..	1	—	1
2	Toxaemia of pregnancy ... ..	1	1	2
1	Threatened abortion ... ..	1	—	1
4	A.P.H. ... ..	3	1	4
3	Caesarian section ... ..	3	—	3
1	V. Veins in leg ... ..	1	—	1
13	Prev. obst. history ... ..	12	1	13
3	Hypertension ... ..	3	—	3
3	Expected complications ... ..	3	—	3
2	Advanced cardiac disease ... ..	2	—	2
1	Fibroids complicating pregnancy	1	—	1
1	For sterilisation ... ..	1	—	1
1	Retained placenta ... ..	1	—	1
79		77	5	82

### Births, 1947

	Notified by			Not notified	Total Live Births	Stillbirths—notified by		
	Doctor	Midwife	Parent			Doctor	Midwife	Parent
Legitimate—								
Male	4	799	—	—	803	—	14	—
Female	3	786	1	—	790	1	14	—
Illegitimate—								
Male	—	35	—	—	35	—	—	—
Female	—	39	—	—	39	—	—	—
Total—								
Male	4	834	—	—	838	—	14	—
Female	3	825	1	—	829	1	14	—
TOTAL	7	1659	1	—	1667	1	28	—

# Infant Mortality, 1947

Cause of Death	Total	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths.	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total 4 weeks to 1 year	Total	
												Male	Female
Miliary Tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mediastinal Tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sclerema ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	6	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Premature Birth ...	16	14	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	2	9	7
Injury at Birth ...	5	4	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Atelectasis ...	2	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery — Sonne ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro-enteritis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningocele ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Intracranial Haemorrhage ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	39	21	5	5	2	33	1	2	2	1	6	22	17

## Home Visiting

Each Health Visitor covers an allotted district. All newly-born children are visited in their own homes within a few days of the mother's return from hospital or nursing home or, in the case of domiciliary confinement, of the mother ceasing to be under the midwife's care. Advice is given on feeding and infant hygiene, and the mother is encouraged to discuss any particular problems relating to the baby, and invited to attend the appropriate Child Welfare Clinic. Further visits are paid regularly until the child is five years old. Visits are also paid and advice given where necessary, to expectant mothers.

## Visits during 1947

			<i>First visits</i>	<i>Total visits</i>
To expectant mothers...	...	...	81	111
To children under 1 year	...	...	1861	5502
To children between 1 and 5 years	...	...		6804
			Total ...	<u>12,417</u>

## Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

There are twelve child welfare centres in the Borough. Of these, one is held twice weekly, one weekly, six twice a month, and four once a month.

The clinics are staffed by the Health Visitors whose areas the clinic serves, two Health Visitors at the larger clinics, one at the smaller ones.

The work at the clinics is chiefly advisory and educational. The children are weighed and advice given on such matters as diet, clothing and general management. Attention is paid to problems of mental upbringing and social training as well as to the physical health and development of the children. Children requiring treatment for other than minor complaints are referred by the medical officer to a special clinic, their family doctor, or a hospital.

Mothers are encouraged to attend the clinics regularly with their children for weighing and general supervision. Every child has a routine overhaul by the medical officer at the first visit, and subsequently at each birthday, or more often if necessary.

A representative from the Food Office attends each clinic for the distribution of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice. The only exception to this is Lower Parkstone Clinic, which is only a short distance from the Food Office. The distribution centre at Hamworthy Clinic was opened in October, 1947.

<i>Attendances at Clinics</i>	<i>First visits</i>	<i>Total visits</i>
Children under 1 year ...	1861	5502
Children between 1 and 5 years ...	—	6804
	Total	12,306

### **Diphtheria Immunisation**

An attempt is made to ensure that all children are immunised against diphtheria before reaching the age of one year. As far as possible, artificially-fed babies are immunised at about seven months, and breast fed babies on the cessation of breast feeding, if this is continued beyond six months. Propaganda is carried out by the health visitors both in their home visiting and at the Child Welfare Clinics. Immunisation is carried out at all Child Welfare Clinics except Branksome, where a special immunisation clinic is held fortnightly.

During 1947, 1,001 pre-school children were given the standard course of immunising injections, 388 of these being under one year, and 500 between one and two years. This means that about 25 per cent. of children in the Borough are immunised before their first birthday and about 55 per cent. before they are two years old.

### **Child Life Protection**

The Health Visitors are also Child Life Protection Visitors in their allotted districts. During 1947, 50 children were boarded out with 25 foster mothers. 210 visits were paid to these homes in the year.

### **Care of Illegitimate Children**

The recommendations contained in the Ministry of Health Circular 2861 have in general been carried out, the Borough Welfare Officer undertaking the social aspects of the work, and the Health Visitors advising on medical problems.

St. Monica's Home, run under the auspices of the Salisbury Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare, provides accommodation for 10 unmarried mothers. During 1947, 28 girls were admitted to the home and there were 13 confinements. The average duration of their stay was three to four months.

The Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare is also honorary obstetrician to St. Monica's Home, and so a close liaison is maintained with the Public Health Department.



## **Home Helps**

The Home Helps Service is operated by the Borough Welfare Officer. Arrangements are made for the provision of such domestic help as is required in the case of illness or confinement of the housewife.

16 Home Helps have been employed during the year, and 109 women have had the benefit of this service.

## **Red Cross Children's War Memorial Hospital, Swanage**

During 1947, 1 child under 5 years was admitted to this hospital.

## **Refresher Courses for Health Visitors and Midwives**

During 1947, 1 midwife and 2 health visitors attended refresher courses.

## **Sharrow House Day Nursery**

This nursery provides accommodation for 50 day children and 6 residents, between the ages of two and five years. Admission is limited to those whose mothers are working, in the case of day children. Children are admitted as residents in the event of confinement or illness of the mother.

During 1947, all children attending the day nursery who had not previously been examined, underwent a routine medical inspection. 39 children were examined, and 6 immunised against diphtheria.

## **Orthopaedic Scheme**

The Borough Orthopaedic Scheme is available to children under five. Defects ascertained by health visitors, midwives and local doctors are seen by a medical officer. Minor defects are treated and followed up at Child Welfare Clinics, and major defects are referred to the orthopaedic clinic. This clinic is held once a month and children are seen by a Consulting Surgeon from the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton.

Children recommended massage, physiotherapy or remedial exercises by the Consulting Surgeon are treated by the Borough Physiotherapist and appliances, when recommended, are supplied by surgical instrument makers or from the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital.

Children are reviewed by the Consulting Surgeon from time to time and may be referred to other specialists for opinion. Those requiring hospitalisation are admitted to the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital at Alton. On completion of treatment, patients are observed at Child Welfare Clinics and later at school.

The following tables summarise the work done and the type and variety of cases treated.

<i>Surgeon's Clinics</i>						
					1946	1947
No. of Clinics	...	...	...		11	11
Cases seen for the 1st time	...				27	27
Cases reviewed	...	...	...		55	45

<i>Massage, Remedial Exercises and Electrical Treatment</i>				1946	1947
No. of cases	...	...	...	16	25
No. of attendances	...	...	...	181	404

<i>Patients in Hospital</i>			
<i>Remaining at end of 1946</i>	<i>Admitted 1947</i>	<i>Discharged 1947</i>	<i>Remaining at end of 1947</i>
4	0	1	3

<i>Classification of Defects</i>										
				<i>Under treatment December, 1946</i>	<i>New cases in 1947</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Discharged</i>	<i>Ceased to attend</i>	<i>Transferred to other districts</i>	<i>Transferred to School</i>
A.	Congenital	...	...	11	8	19	2	0	0	1
B.	Inflammatory	...	...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
C.	Traumatic	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
D.	Paralytic	...	...	4	0	4	0	1	0	3
E.	Acquired	...	...	16	16	32	12	2	1	3
F.	Diseases of Bone	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G.	Other Orthopaedic defects	...	...	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
H.	Non-Orthopaedic defects	...	...	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL				31	27	58	16	3	1	7
										31



### Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Treatment

All expectant mothers attending the Municipal Ante-natal Clinics were offered dental examination, advice and treatment by the Authority's Dental Officers. Children attending Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics who required dental treatment were also referred to the dental officers.

219 expectant and nursing mothers were seen by the dental officers for examination and advice. Of these, 132 accepted treatment and there were 832 attendances.

The treatment carried out is summarised as follows : Extractions, 462 ; Fillings, 199 ; Local Anaesthetics, 237 ; General Anaesthetics, 7 ; 50 artificial dentures were supplied in the cases of 29 patients, and six dentures came in for repair ; 5 cases were referred for X-rays. Other operations totalled 404.

53 pre-school children were seen and received advice, and there were 65 attendances. 47 temporary teeth were extracted, 3 were filled. 29 cases received a general anaesthetic and four a local anaesthetic. One case was referred for X-Ray.

### National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

The N.S.P.C.C. has a full-time Inspector for the Poole and East Dorset area. The Health Department has always found the Society's Inspector very ready to co-operate in cases of medical neglect, and most helpful in following up such cases, and in dealing with difficult and careless parents.

During 1947, 151 cases were dealt with by the Society. Included in these were 81 cases of neglect, 14 of ill-treatment, and 47 in which the parents or guardians sought the Inspector's advice and help. There was one prosecution, which was successful. One case was brought before the Juvenile Court as requiring care and protection, and the children were removed from the parents and handed over to the care of the local Authority. The inspector paid 710 visits in connection with these cases.

### Nursing Homes

During 1947, 21 visits of inspection were made to Nursing Homes within the Borough. One Home was closed during the year, leaving a total of 11 Homes containing 97 beds (10 maternity and 87 surgical and medical) open at the end of 1947.

Number on register at end of 1946	...	...	12
Added during 1947	...	...	—
Closed during 1947	...	...	1
Number on register at end of 1947	...	...	11
Number of visits of inspection during 1947	...	...	21

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

(a) **Public Water Supplies****Corporation Supply**

The main water supply for the district is provided by the Poole Corporation Waterworks. The supply is obtained from a well 170 ft. deep in the Upper Chalk at Corfe Mullen, near Poole. The water is hard, but is softened by a modern "cold-lime" process, then rapid filtered and finally chloraminated to give residuals of chlorine throughout the area of supply. The quantity of water during the year has been ample for all purposes, and the water supplied has maintained a high and consistent standard of purity. During the year, 160 samples of the treated water from consumers' taps were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors for bacteriological examination by the County Bacteriologist, and on all occasions the water was reported as "Class I" (Ministry of Health Report 71 (1939) classification). In addition to these independent bacteriological examinations, a daily check of residual chlorine was made at all points of the area of supply.

During 1947, 34 bacteriological examinations of the raw water before treatment were made by the Waterworks Undertaking's chemist. Of these, 14 were Class I, 8 were Class II, 10 were Class III, and 2 were Class IV (Ministry of Health Classification). As the water is derived from the upper chalk, it has no plumbo-solvent action.

4,600 yards of mains were laid during 1947, and the amount of water supplied was 862.6 million gallons.

A copy of a recent chemical analysis of the water is given below :—

**CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS**

of a sample of Water from Poole Corporation Waterworks on 9th March, 1947.

*Chemical Analysis* (Results in parts per 100,000)

Ammonia, free	...	...	...	...	0.0010
„ albuminoid	...	...	...	...	0.0090
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. in 15 min.	...	...	...	...	0.0692
Oxygen absorbed at 80°F. in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	0.0918
Nitrites (or free chlorine)	...	...	...	very slight trace	
Nitrates (as Nitric Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	0.38

Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	1.90
„ (as Sodium Chloride)	...	...	...	...	...	3.13
Hardness, Temporary as $\text{CaCO}_3$	...	...	...	...	...	11.00
„ Permanent as $\text{CaCO}_3$	...	...	...	...	...	1.00
„ Total	...	...	...	...	...	12.00
Total Solid Matter	...	...	...	...	...	20.20
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.10
parts per million						
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
pH value	...	...	...	...	...	7.3
Metals	...	...	...	...	...	slight trace Iron
Colour	...	...	...	...	...	Colourless & Clear
Odour	...	...	...	...	...	None

#### *Bacteriological Examination*

Total Organisms, per c.c. grown on Agar Agar	
at 37°C. in 48 hours	22
B. Coli, grown at 37°C. in 48 hours, per 100 c.c.	Absent

#### *Remarks*

The above results show that chemically and bacteriologically this water is in a very good condition, and is eminently suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) ARTHUR S. CARLOS, B.SC., F.R.I.C.

### **Bournemouth Gas & Water Company Supply**

About 2,000 houses in the eastern and northern parts of the Borough are within the supply area of the Bournemouth Gas & Water Company, the principal water supply company in the adjoining County Borough of Bournemouth.

Within the Borough of Poole during the year, 47 samples of this supply were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors for bacteriological examination at the County Laboratory, and all were found to be of the standard of Class I.

The supply has been ample throughout the year. A typical chemical analysis of this water was given in the Annual Report for 1946.

#### **(b) Private Water Supplies**

In the northern area of the Borough a population of about 600 in Canford Magna is supplied by a private supply belonging to Canford School. The supply is taken from a steel-lined

artesian borehole in the underlying chalk at Canford. The raw water, though hard, is of a very high standard of purity, but as a precaution automatic chlorination is carried out before distribution. During 1947, 24 samples of the raw water were taken for bacteriological examination, and all were "Class I". In addition, regular tests were made for residual chlorine in the distributing system. A typical chemical analysis of this water was given in the Annual Report for 1946. The quantity of water is ample for the supply of the area served.

In the rural part of the Canford area, outside the area of the piped supplies, there are 52 houses on private supplies, i.e., springs and wells. These are all free from serious contamination. During 1947, 37 samples were taken from these supplies for bacteriological examination. 32 samples were reported as "Class I", 3 as "Class II", one as "Class III", and one as "Class IV". The supply from which the "Class IV" sample was obtained has been replaced by a piped supply from the public main.

## **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**

As in 1946, extensions of the sewers in 1947 were confined to the sewerage of new estates developed by the Council under their housing programme, within the limits of the existing sewerage areas. Again, no progress has been made with the proposed sewerage schemes for the development areas of Bearwood, Canford Magna, Merley and Waterloo in the semi-rural district taken over from the Poole Rural District in 1933, or for the sewerage of the western part of Hamworthy. Drainage conditions in these areas have been a constant source of anxiety for many years, and the lack of progress is, to say the least, disquietening. The figures given in the table below show the number of houses without main drainage, but they do not, and cannot, give any idea of the extent of the nuisance existing due to the provision of modern sanitary fittings, particularly water closets, to houses in areas where there are no sewers. Apart from the question of nuisance, the potential risk to public health from the lack of sewers in these areas is a matter of the greatest concern, and there is no doubt that the sewerage of these areas cannot be deferred much longer without passing the limits of safety.

In the Annual Report for 1946, it was stated that it was hoped to complete the sewerage of the Foxholes Area in 1947. Unfortunately, the scheme had to be deferred pending receipt of sanction from the Ministry of Health. Every effort is being made to secure this sanction in 1948.

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There are 696 cesspools and 238 pail-closets in the Borough, distributed as follows :—

	Cesspools	Pail-closets
Canford (development areas) ...	277	65
Waterloo ... ..	80	27
Hamworthy ... ..	109	55
Creekmoor ... ..	29	28
Foxholes ... ..	59	7
Newtown and Parkstone ...	35	—
Broadstone ... ..	11	—
Isolated houses (Canford area) ...	96	56
	<hr/> 696 <hr/>	<hr/> 238 <hr/>

The total number of cesspools is the same as in 1946, as during the year 9 new cesspools were constructed and 9 cesspool drainage systems were connected to the sewers.

The Council provides a full cesspool-emptying service for the unsewered areas of the Borough.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

These services are carried out by the Borough Engineer's Department under the direction of the Health Committee. I am indebted to the Borough Engineer for the following summarised figures applicable to the year ending 31st March, 1947 :—

#### House Refuse Collection and Disposal (Combined)

Net cost ... ..	£30,346
Net cost per 1,000 of population ... ..	£397.72
Net cost per 1,000 houses ... ..	£1,408.17

#### Street and Gully Cleansing (Combined)

Approximate mileage of roads cleansed ... ..	122.3
Net cost per mile ... ..	£111.90
Net cost per 1,000 population ... ..	£179.3

### RIVERS AND STREAMS

The river Stour, which for over 5 miles of its course forms the northern boundary of the Borough, is the only large river in the Borough. The river is known to be polluted in varying degrees throughout its course, but there is no evidence of any direct pollution from the area of the Borough of Poole.



The Canford area contains a number of watercourses and streams which flow through unsewered development areas and then through dairy farm areas to the River Stour.

Whilst all known sources of direct pollution of streams have been cut out since the district was taken over in 1933, the existence of over 300 cesspools or septic tank drainage systems in this area, many of which are in very close proximity to watercourses and streams, forms a source of potential danger which will not be removed until the area is sewered.

In this area of the Borough effluents from sewage disposal plants are permitted to discharge direct to streams only where the filtered effluents are effectively sterilised by automatic chlorination. During the year, 23 samples of such effluents were taken for bacteriological examination and all were satisfactory. 37 samples of river and stream waters receiving such effluents were also taken for bacteriological examination during the year as a check on sewage effluent pollution.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The total number of visits and inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year was 16,187.

1,401 complaints were received and investigated.

A summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year is given in the following Tabular Statement :—

### SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' ANNUAL TABULAR STATEMENTS.

#### VISITS

##### Housing

Re Defects	...	...	...	...	...	4945
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	205
Dirty or Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	...	196

##### Drainage

Re Defects	...	...	...	...	...	1370
Surface Water, Ditches, Streams, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	482
Cesspools, Sewage Disposal Systems, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	291

##### Water Supply

...	...	...	...	...	...	326
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

##### Refuse

...	...	...	...	...	...	102
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

##### Infectious Disease

...	...	...	...	...	...	548
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

##### Insect Pests, etc.

...	...	...	...	...	...	117
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

##### Diseases of Animals

...	...	...	...	...	...	31
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

**Food**

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	114
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	559
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	1014
Fish Shops, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	612
General Food Shops and Premises	...	...	...	...	...	988
Restaurants, Kitchens, Food Prep. Premises, etc. ...	...	...	...	...	...	375
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	315
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	124
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	266
Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	412
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	141
<b>Shops (Section 10, Shops Act)</b>	...	...	...	...	...	88
<b>Factories</b>	...	...	...	...	...	350
<b>Work-Places, Offices, etc.</b>	...	...	...	...	...	54
<b>Other Premises</b>						
Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	42
Moveable Dwellings...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	213
Swimming Pools, Baths and Washhouses	...	...	...	...	...	25
Places of Public Entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	50
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	497
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	155
<b>Other Visits</b>	...	...	...	...	...	781
<b>Interviews</b>	...	...	...	...	...	327
<b>Total No. of Inspections and Visits</b>	...	...	...	...	...	16187

**WORK DONE****Housing**

No. of houses inspected for housing defects	...	...	2150
No. of houses recorded under Housing Regulations	...	...	25
No. of houses requiring repair	...	...	2045
No. of houses repaired without formal action	...	...	1500

**Drainage**

Choked drains cleared	...	...	275
Drains altered, repaired or reconstructed	...	...	225
Drains tested	...	...	278
Certificate tests carried out	...	...	13
Cesspools repaired or reconstructed	...	...	3
Cesspool drainage connected to sewer	...	...	9

**Disinfections, etc., carried out**

Infectious diseases ... ..	253
Verminous premises ... ..	71
Insect pests, etc. ... ..	64

**General**

Refuse—Dust bins replaced or provided ... ..	16
Food Premises—No. where defects remedied ... ..	100
Other Premises—No. where defects remedied ... ..	514
Complaints investigated ... ..	1401

**NOTICES**

No. of informal Notices served ... ..	1832
No. of Informal Notices complied with ... ..	1842
No. of Statutory Notices served ... ..	69
No. of Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	81

**SHOPS AND OFFICES**

During the year 88 inspections of shops (other than food shops) were made under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, and action was taken in respect of 32 shops to secure compliance with the provisions relating to temperature, ventilation, washing facilities or sanitary conveniences. 54 visits were paid to offices and in 22 instances action was taken in regard to the absence, insufficiency or defective condition of sanitary conveniences.

Owing to the shortage of staff and additional duties in connection with meat inspection, re-housing, and the issue of licences for essential repairs it has not yet been possible for the Sanitary Inspectors to carry out a systematic survey and inspection of shops (other than food shops), but where conditions requiring improvement have been met they have been dealt with.

**CAMPING SITES**

There are no licensed camping sites in the Borough and the only authorised sites in use during the year were the temporary summer camps of recognised youth organisations. Generally speaking, these presented no difficulties. One mixed camp, run by a religious organisation in the Borough, averaged about 200 persons for a period of six weeks and tended to outstrip its original purpose ; the Council have intervened to limit the future use of the site to 42 days, and the maximum number of persons to 150.

The Council have considered the possibility of establishing a controlled camping site, but so far have been unable to find a suitable site.



It was again necessary, in a number of instances, to take action under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to prevent the use of unsuitable sites and premises for temporary housing accommodation. No dwellings were licensed for use as moveable dwellings during the year.

### **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

It has not yet been possible to re-introduce routine observations on factory chimneys, but in four instances action was taken to deal with smoke nuisances or grit emissions. In this sphere effective action is hampered and limited by the present difficulties with regard to fuel and replacement of boiler equipment.

### **SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.**

During the year two open-air sea-water swimming baths were available to the public. The Corporation bath is at Seldown, and a privately owned bath is at Lilliput. Both these baths are provided with efficient modern continuous filtration and chlorination plants. During the season, 10 samples of the water were taken for bacteriological examination ; of these, eight were Class I, one was Class II, and one Class IV. In addition a daily check of residual chlorine in the water was maintained by the baths staff and checked periodically by the Sanitary Inspectors.

In December, 1946, the Council converted part of the ground floor of the Guildhall in Market Street into public slipper baths, to replace the public baths destroyed by enemy action in 1941. These baths are situated in the centre of the old town and provide much-needed bath facilities in an area where the majority of the houses are scheduled for clearance and are provided with the bare minimum (if any) of cleansing facilities.

### **DISINFESTATION.**

During 1947, 196 visits were made to dirty or verminous houses. 26 houses (including 9 Council houses) were found to be infested with bed bugs and disinfested. In all cases the defestation was carried out by the Public Health Department at the expense of the owners or occupiers. During the year, experiments on a limited scale were carried out with a number of the standard proprietary brands of disinfestants. Except for "quick kill" properties, there appeared to be little to choose between any of these and the Department's standard method of spraying rooms, bed furniture and bedding with a 5 per cent. solution of D.D.T. in paraffin. This method is satisfactory in practice, simple in operation, free from serious smell, and relatively cheap.

In order to prevent the spread of infestation to new Council houses, prospective tenants' rooms, bed furniture and bedding found to be verminous are disinfested by spraying, before the date of removal and again on the day of removal. Bedding found to be heavily infested is disinfested by steam or destroyed.

### **COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**

There are two registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, both situated in the old part of the town, near the Quay. These can accommodate 49 men (27 and 22 respectively). They were inspected on 42 occasions during the year.

### **MOSQUITO CONTROL.**

In the Annual Report for 1946, some notes were given on the species of mosquitoes found in the Borough and surrounding district, and of the methods of control adopted. In 1946, all potential breeding grounds were surveyed, kept under observation during the summer and sprayed with a mixture of kerosene and heavy oil and one per cent. D.D.T. at intervals, as found necessary. This was found to be successful in controlling breeding in the potential breeding grounds dealt with.

During 1947, the same method of control was carried out. Of 29 potential breeding grounds, 18 were found to be active breeding places at some time during the summer. Breeding was found to have recurred in 7 places after the initial spraying, but did not recur after a second spraying. As a result of the regular spraying of the breeding places or of the exceptionally dry weather during the warmest part of the year mosquitoes were very much less troublesome than usual. It has been found that the small ornamental ponds, rainwater tanks, water butts, etc., in private gardens provide the most numerous breeding places for mosquitoes, and are the most difficult to control, as ascertainment and action are dependent on the observation and co-operation of the occupiers. It is difficult to estimate the extent to which the harbour backwaters are breeding places, as large tracts of mudland are inaccessible and the largest areas are outside the Borough.

### **RODENT CONTROL.**

Since 1944 the Council have provided a comprehensive service for the destruction of rats and mice on premises within the Borough. A full-time staff of one Rodent Officer and 3 Operatives is employed in this work, working on the methods laid down by the Infestation Division of the Ministry of Food.

During 1945 and 1946, a systematic inspection was made of the whole area of the Borough under the Infestation Division's "Block Control" system. In 1947, the "Block Control" system of survey was continued. In addition, when complaints were investigated, a survey was made of the surrounding area and the area dealt with as one block.

A summary of the work done in rat destruction in 1947, is as follows :—

Total number of visits made by staff	...	...	...	13712
Total number of premises inspected	...	...	...	10660
Number of complaints investigated	...	...	...	480
Number of premises found infested as result of complaints	...	...	...	418
Number of premises found infested on "Block Control" survey	...	...	...	280
Number of premises treated	...	...	...	698
Number of premises cleared	...	...	...	614
Number of premises re-treated and cleared	...	...	...	52
Estimated number of rats destroyed	...	...	...	3641
Number of bodies of rats recovered	...	...	...	1145

Treatment was mainly by baiting, but all methods of rat destruction were employed. During the year 12,164 pre-baits, 3,041 poison baits and 352 post-baits were laid. The estimate of the number of rats destroyed is based on the Infestation Division's system of calculation, but the number of actual bodies recovered from the surface shows the figure to be a conservative estimate, as in the poison baiting system of destruction most of the rats die underground.

A number of premises were also cleared of mice, but these were mainly dealt with by trapping, and in most instances this was done by the occupiers of the premises themselves after instruction and advice by the Rodent Officer.

One case of infestation by foxes was successfully dealt with, and the bodies of a vixen and two cubs recovered.

### **DISEASES OF ANIMALS.**

No outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease or Swine Fever occurred in the Borough during 1947. One suspected case of Foot and Mouth Disease was reported, but was not confirmed. During the year two offences under Restriction of Movement Orders or Regulations were reported and the offenders cautioned. Seven cases of Fowl Pest were notified, four of which were confirmed.

There are about 100 piggeries in existence in the Borough, but owing to difficulties in obtaining feeding stuffs, a considerable number of these were not in use in 1947. 130 visits of inspection were made to these premises.

### FACTORIES.

The number of Factories registered is 383.

The number of inspections made during the year was 375. Generally, no difficulties were experienced in dealing with nuisances found in factories, but the remedy of defects involving additional construction, such as the building or improvement of sanitary conveniences, presented considerable difficulty, and much make-shift work had to be tolerated in the circumstances.

Particulars of the inspections of factories are set out in the table below :—

### THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### Part I of the Act.

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Number of :—</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
* (1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	129	57	10	—
† (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	250	290	45	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	4	28	1	—
TOTAL ... ..	383	375	56	—

\* — Factories in which no mechanical power is used.

† — Factories in which mechanical power is used.

## 2. Cases in which defects were found

(If defects were discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they were reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ...	10	5	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	3	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	5	4	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ...	10	9	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	25	18	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out- work) ...	30	23	—	1	—
TOTAL ...	83	61	—	2	—

## OUTWORKERS.

During the year lists containing the addresses of 103 outworkers were received. All were employed in the clothing trade. 69 of these were resident in the Borough and their homes were visited by the Sanitary Inspectors. In no instance was it found necessary to take any action with regard to unwholesome conditions. The names and addresses of 34 workers resident outside the Borough were forwarded to the Local Authorities concerned.

## SCHOOLS.

In 1946, a survey of the sanitary circumstances of all schools in the Borough was carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and as a result of the recommendations made then, improvements in sanitation were secured in a number of instances where conditions were not satisfactory. Generally speaking, the sanitary circumstances of the schools in the Borough are fairly satisfactory. All schools are provided with main water supplies and washing facilities are fairly satisfactory.



Regular inspections of the sanitary conveniences of schools were made by the Sanitary Inspectors and any defects or lack of cleanliness attended to where found. The whitewashing of school conveniences and the disinfection of classrooms during holiday periods is carried out as a matter of routine by the Health Department for all schools.

Regular inspections of school kitchens were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and, as in the case of restaurants, during these visits emphasis was laid on the standard of personal hygiene of the staff, and particular attention drawn to the importance of cleanliness of hands. During the year, lectures and demonstrations on kitchen hygiene were held for school kitchen staffs. All schools not provided with kitchens have been provided with facilities for cleansing school meal utensils, including constant hot water supply.

During 1947, 213 visits of inspection were made to schools by the Sanitary Inspectors.



## SECTION D

## HOUSING.

**Number of Houses in occupation in the Borough.**

The total number of dwelling houses occupied and void was 22,431. 385 houses were still under construction on 31st December, 1947.

Year	Over £22 R.V.		Under £22 R.V.		Total		Popula- tion	Persons per occupied House
	Occupied	Void	Occupied	Void	Occupied	Void		
1945	5371	104	16119	78	21490	182	70000	3.26
1946	5425	49	16117	82	21542	131	76330	3.52
1947	5535	27	16805	64	22340	91	78720	3.53

**New House Construction**

	Permanent Houses	Pre- fabricated	Total
1. Number of houses of all types completed in 1947 ... ..	334	2	336
2. Number of above completed as part of Municipal Schemes ...	268	2	270
3. Total number of houses <i>under construction</i> at 31.12.47 ... ..	385	—	385
4. Number of houses <i>under construction</i> at 31.12.47 which form part of Municipal Schemes ...	358	—	358
5. Number of houses included in approved Municipal Schemes, but which were not started, as at 31.12.47 ... ..	64	—	64

**Re-housing**

The number of applicants for housing accommodation on the Council's Register as at the 31st December, 1947, was 3,415.

The number of families re-housed during 1947 was 309.

**Existing Housing Conditions**

Housing continues to be the greatest single problem confronting the Local Authority. Without a special survey it is difficult to assess accurately the extent of the overcrowding in the Borough, but there can be no doubt that it is serious. Despite the re-housing of 309 families in 1947, there does not appear to be any great improvement

in the overall position, as the number of young married couples sharing the home of one or other of the parents appears to be increasing and cases where there are several married sons or daughters (and their children) living in the same house as the parents are frequent.

There is also the problem of the clearance areas. When the outbreak of war stopped slum clearance work in 1939, there were still in existence in the Borough, mainly in the old part of the town, some 760 houses scheduled for demolition in the following 5 years. About 660 of these houses were insanitary, unfit for habitation and incapable of being made fit, and most of these were beyond even temporary repairs. Yet, with the exception of a number of buildings which are completely derelict, these houses are still in occupation, and there is no indication as to when slum clearance work will be resumed. This is a national, not merely a local problem, but in the old town area of Poole the condition of most of the houses scheduled for clearance is so bad that the rehousing of the occupants cannot be delayed much longer without undue detriment to health.

During 1947, the occupants of 10 houses which were considered to be dangerous were rehoused and the houses purchased by the Council for demolition ; two of the houses have been demolished and 8 made safe temporarily pending demolition. 4 other structures being used as dwellings were demolished voluntarily by the owners after the Council had rehoused the occupants.

Difficulties with regard to housing repairs increased rather than decreased during the year and the effect of the lack of routine maintenance and repair work during the past 9 years is becoming increasingly apparent in the dilapidated condition of houses, particularly rented working class houses. At the same time, shortage of labour and materials and the restrictions on licences for repair work continues to make routine or thorough repair work impossible and only the abatement of urgent defects and nuisances can be attempted.

### Housing Inspection.

#### I. Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	2150
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					4945
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	...	25
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...					34

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	12
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...				2045
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of formal Notices :—					
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	...	...	...	1500
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—					
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...			11
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	23
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...				—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	61
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	49
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...				8
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...			—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...			—
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	—

## SECTION E

**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****Food Premises.**

The importance attached to the inspection of food premises in the Borough can be seen from the fact that over one quarter of all visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors in 1947 was made to food premises. In all 4,508 such inspections were made ; details of the visits are shown in the Table on page 37.

During these visits every opportunity was utilised to impress on management and staff the supreme importance of a high standard of personal hygiene, particularly with persons actually engaged in the preparation or cooking of food. The importance of the cleanliness of hands was continually stressed and "wash your hands" notices fixed in all lavatories, etc., drawing attention to this. In this connection, considerable progress was made in the provision of suitable washing facilities, including constant hot water to all food premises, and most food premises in the Borough are now satisfactory in this respect.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors continued their efforts to secure the interior redecoration of food shops, particularly working rooms and stores, work which had been much neglected during the war years.

Notices were served on the occupiers of 100 food premises where alterations or improvements were necessary to meet the requirements of Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. As in the previous year, work in this direction was hampered by the shortage of materials and the restrictions on building licences.

During the year a number of kitchens of cafes, restaurants and canteens were reconstructed or modernised. One difficulty experienced in connection with these premises is the lack of adequate statutory power to enforce a standard of construction and fittings compatible with the food preparation work carried on. For other classes of food preparation premises, this power exists in the registration provisions of Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, and it is to be regretted that the kitchens of cafes, restaurants, clubs or hotels are exempt from these provisions.

**Milk Supply.****Cowsheds, Dairies and Milk Shops**

The number of Dairyemen registered in the Borough is as follows :

Producers	...	...	...	34
Producer-Retailers	...	...	...	4
Wholesale Purveyors	...	...	...	1
Wholesale and Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	3
Retailers	.....	...	...	10
Retailers from outside Borough	...	...	...	5
Purveyors of bottled milk only	...	...	...	68



The number of registered premises in the Borough is as under :

Cowsheds	...	...	...	38
Creameries	...	...	...	1
Bottled Milk Depots	...	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	...	14
Shops selling sealed bottled milk only	...	...	...	68

The number of inspections of these premises made during the year was :

Cowsheds	...	...	...	124
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	266

### **The Milk (Special Designations) Orders**

The following licences have been granted :

Tuberculin Tested Milk—				
Bottlers' licences	...	...	...	2
Dealers' licences	...	...	...	2
Supplementary licences	...	...	...	2
Pasteurised Milk—				
Dealers' licences	...	...	...	17

### **Bacteriological Examinations**

The supervision of production and distribution of milk in the Borough is carried out by the dual method of inspection of premises and methods, and bacteriological examination of milk, but since the extension of the National Milk Testing Scheme to all producers in the Borough, routine sampling for bacteriological examination has been discontinued at cowsheds in order to prevent over-lapping, and routine sampling concentrated on retail and designated milks.

During the year, 154 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination.

35 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were taken and all were satisfactory to the Methylene Blue and Coli tests.

51 samples of Pasteurised milk were taken ; 50 were satisfactory to the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests but one failed the Phosphatase test.

24 samples of Heat-treated milk were taken ; all were satisfactory to the Methylene Blue test but 4 failed the Phosphatase test.

44 samples of non-graded milk were taken ; 38 were satisfactory to the Resazurin or Methylene Blue tests and 6 were unsatisfactory.

These results show that bacteriologically the standard of milk supplied in the Borough during the year was satisfactory.

### Pasteurisation

An average weekly sale of milk in the Borough is about 45,000 gallons. Of this, about 40,500 gallons, or approximately 90 per cent., is pasteurised or heat-treated. Of the 4,500 gallons of untreated milk sold weekly, about 40 per cent. was produced as Tuberculin Tested or Accredited Milk though not all sold as such.

The policy of the Council has been to secure that all milk sold in the Borough is pasteurised, and it was hoped that with the issue of the Defence Regulation 55G, in 1945, a Compulsory Order would be applied to this area. This hope has not yet materialised although the case for an Order was again put before the Ministry of Food in 1947.

### Ice Cream.

There are 132 premises in the Borough registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream. These are :—

Premises registered for manufacture ...	12
Premises registered for retail sale ...	31
Premises registered for retail sale of pre-packed ice cream only ...	89

Owing to the shortage of supplies only a few of the sellers registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream were able to operate during the year. The shortage of pre-packed ice-cream is unfortunate as it nullifies all efforts to persuade street traders to adopt the pre-packed method of sale.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, came into force during the year. These regulations provide a useful instrument for the protection of the public health against risk of infection from ice cream, but effective supervision of this section of the food industry is hampered by the exclusion of cafes, restaurants and hotels from the registration provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, from the lack of control over street traders and from the absence of a standard for ice cream.

During the season, 109 samples of ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination. With a standard of not more than 100,000 organisms per c.c. and an absence of B. Coli, or a Methylene Blue test grading of Class I or II being accepted as satisfactory, 79 of the samples were classified as satisfactory and 30 as unsatisfactory. The percentage of unsatisfactory samples, 27.5, whilst far too high, is a considerable improvement on the figure for 1946.

In view of the prohibition on the use of milk, milk products and fats for manufacture and the absence of any standard, no samples of ice-cream were taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act.



## INSPECTION OF MEAT.

### Slaughterhouses and Butchers' Premises.

Under the centralisation of slaughtering scheme most of the slaughtering for the area within a 15 miles radius of Poole is concentrated in the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Poole. During the year, 559 spells of duty were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, during which every one of the 11,904 animals slaughtered was inspected at the time of slaughter. This continuous inspection duty placed a severe strain on the inspectorial staff, which was not lessened by the congested conditions under which most of the work of inspection had to be carried out. Representations were made to the Ministry of Food on this subject, but although a number of improvements were made during the year, the problem will not be solved until the slaughterhouse is enlarged to a size adequate for the amount of slaughtering carried on.

In addition, 1,014 visits were made to butchers' shops for the inspection of meat and premises.

Particulars of the inspections of carcasses and offals at the slaughterhouse are given in the following tables :—

### Carcasses Inspected and Condemned during the year 1947.

	<i>Cattle excluding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed ... ..	2459	2058	2993	4023	371
Number Inspected ... ..	2459	2058	2993	4023	371
All diseases except Tuberculosis— Whole carcasses condemned	21	36	17	6	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	895	1000	24	1297	45
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	37.3	50.3	1.4	32.4	14.3
Tuberculosis only— Whole carcasses condemned ...	15	73	6	—	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	438	734	7	—	28
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with Tuber- culosis ... ..	18.4	39.2	0.4	—	8.6

**Meat Condemned.**

<i>Meat</i>	<i>Tuberculosis</i>	<i>Other Diseases</i>	<i>Total Weight</i>
Beef ...	54,459 lbs.	21,973 lbs.	76,432 lbs.
Veal ...	218 "	612 "	830 "
Mutton ...	—	627 "	627 "
Pork ...	1,121 "	715 "	1,836 "
Offal ...	32,962 "	39,745 "	72,707 "
Total ...	88,760 lbs.	63,672 lbs.	152,432 lbs.

In addition 2,302 lbs. of imported meat and 1,864 lbs. of imported corned beef and mutton were condemned as unsound in butchers' shops. Thus the total weight of meat and edible offal condemned in 1947 was 69 tons, 18 cwts, 0 qrs., 22 lbs.

**Inspection of Other Foods**

Arising from the inspection of food in retail shops, etc., 23 tons, 3 cwts., 2 qrs. and 2 lbs. of foodstuffs (other than meat) were condemned and surrendered for destruction or salvage for animal feeding stuffs. These comprised :—

Bacon	...	...	...	...	205 lbs.
Poultry, Rabbits, etc.	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Sausages and Meat Products	...	...	...	...	70 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	32,759 lbs.
Fats (Butter, Margarine, etc.)	...	...	...	...	292 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	99 lbs.
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	2,186 lbs.
Vegetables	...	...	...	...	10,169 lbs.
Fruit	...	...	...	...	1,896 lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	438 lbs.
Flour and Cereals	...	...	...	...	499 lbs.
Jams and Preserves	...	...	...	...	91 lbs.
Confectionery	...	...	...	...	13 lbs.
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	688 lbs.
Tinned Foodstuffs	...	...	...	...	4,806 tins
Eggs	...	...	...	...	569
					<hr/>
					51,914 lbs.

The total weight of all food (including meat and edible offal) condemned in 1947 was 93 tons, 1 cwt., 2 qrs. and 24 lbs.

### **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.**

Analyses of samples of foods and drugs taken under the Food and Drugs Act, are carried out by the Public Analysts for the Borough, Dr. R. P. Charles, M.D., F.R.I.C., of the Southern Counties Laboratories, Bournemouth, and Mr. A. S. Carlos, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Bournemouth, who also carry out any chemical examinations of food, water, etc., required by the Public Health Department.

A branch of the Dorset County Council Public Health Laboratories is established in the Municipal Buildings, Poole, and all bacteriological examinations of foods required are carried out there. The facilities for examinations being so readily available, every use is made by the Sanitary Inspectors of these aids in their work in food inspection. Examinations carried out by the Laboratory include :—

Routine bacteriological examinations of milk, ice-cream, soft drinks, etc.

Special examinations of foods for specific pathogenic organisms. Phosphatase, Methylene Blue and Resazurin tests of milk samples. Churn and bottle rinses.

Microscopical examinations of specimens from slaughter-house for identification of diseases in meat inspection.

Microscopical examinations of cereals, etc., for mites, etc.

In all 1,022 samples and specimens were submitted during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors for bacteriological or microscopical examination.

### **Food and Drugs Adulteration.**

331 samples of foods and drugs were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and sent to the Public Analyst for analysis.

The Table on pages 56, 57, and 58 gives a summary of the samples taken, the results of analyses and of any action taken in respect of adulterated samples.

The 20 samples of soft drinks mentioned in the Public Analysts' reports were not, strictly speaking, samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. They were taken informally, together with samples of drinks and bottles for bacteriological examination, by arrangement with the makers, as a check on the manufacture of soft drinks in this area. 15 of the samples did not comply with the Soft Drinks Orders with regard to composition. The matter was taken up with the Soft Drinks Industry and the managements concerned worked out new formulae to bring the drinks up to the required standard.

The Reports of the Public Analysts for the Borough are appended :  
 Dr. R. P. Charles, M.D., F.R.I.C. :

“ During the year ending 31st December, 1947, 279 samples were submitted under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Of these, 59 were formal samples and 220 were informal samples. Three formal and nine informal samples were adulterated, representing a percentage adulteration of 4.3. This figure shows an increase when compared with the figure for 1946 (1.3 per cent.)

“ Of the samples of Milk submitted, thirty-nine were formal and forty-three were informal, a total of eighty-two samples, of which three formal and six informal were adulterated. The formal adulterated samples contained 2.3, 2.0, and 1.7 per cent. of extraneous water respectively, and of the informal adulterated samples four contained extraneous water to the extent of 2.0, 2.3, 2.4, and 3.4 per cent. respectively, and one other was deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6 per cent. One informal sample contained a balsam, probably Balsam of Peru, and was returned as being adulterated. One formal sample was genuine but abnormal, having 8.30 per cent. of non-fatty solids. The average composition of the remaining genuine samples was Fat 3.7 per cent., and Non-fatty Solids 8.7 per cent., which is very satisfactory.

“ One sample of Beef Sausages was examined and found to be genuine and of good quality.

“ Eleven informal samples of various pastes were submitted. They were found to be genuine and of good quality and free from preservatives.

“ Six formal and six informal samples of Pepper were examined and were found to be genuine and of good quality, and the microscopical examinations were satisfactory.

“ One informal sample of Granulated Sugar, one formal and two informal samples of Sugar were submitted, and one informal sample of Sugar was found to be adulterated, containing only 75 per cent. of sugar.

“ Three formal samples of Pure Coffee, one formal sample of Coffee and Chicory and two informal samples of Coffee were examined and were found to be genuine and of good quality and the microscopical examinations were satisfactory.

“ One informal sample of Lime Juice Cordial was submitted and was found to be deficient in sugar to the extent of 16.6 per cent.

"Two informal samples of Pudding Mixture were submitted, one was found to be adulterated, being infested with active meal mites, their ova, and dead meal mites.

"Thirty-eight informal samples of Drugs were examined. All were genuine and of good quality, and complied with the requirements of the British Pharmacopoeia.

"All the other samples were genuine and of good quality.

"(Signed) R. PENDRILL CHARLES, M.D., F.R.I.C."

Mr. A. S. Carlos, B.Sc., F.R.I.C. :

"During the year ending 31st December, 1947, I received 52 samples for analysis under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938. Of these, three were formal and 49 informal. One of the formal samples and 17 of the informal samples were found to be adulterated, representing a percentage adulteration of 33.3 of the formal samples and 34.7 of the informal samples.

#### " FOODS

"37 samples, all informal, were submitted for examination, including 19 taken under the Soft Drinks Orders. No formal samples were sent for analysis during the year.

"Of the 19 samples of Soft Drinks, 14 were found to be adulterated and failed to comply with the requirements of the Soft Drinks Order, 1946. This represents a percentage adulteration of 73.6.

"The remaining 18 samples of food were all genuine.

#### " DRUGS

"3 formal samples and 12 informal samples of drugs were submitted for analysis during the year, and of them one formal and two informal samples of Zinc Ointment were respectively 6.1, 7.8 and 13.0 per cent. deficient in Zinc Oxide, and one informal sample of Aspirin, 22 per cent. deficient in Acetyl Salicylic Acid.

"All the remaining samples of drugs were genuine.

"(Signed) ARTHUR S. CARLOS."



# Samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act.

	Formal	Informal	Total	Genuine	Adulterated	Vendor cautioned	Vendor Prosecuted
<b>Foods</b>							
Arrowroot ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Baking Powder ... ..	—	13	13	13	—	—	—
Barley Crystals ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Blanc Mange Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Broth, Chicken ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Butter ... ..	2	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cinnamon, ground ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Cocoa ... ..	—	7	7	7	—	—	—
Cheese ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee ... ..	3	3	6	6	—	—	—
Coffee and Chicory ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Curry Powder ... ..	—	6	6	6	—	—	—
Custard Powder ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Custard Flavour ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Custard Pudding ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Dessert Mould ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Dessert Sauce Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Balls ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Flavouring, Almond ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Flavouring, Lemon ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Flavouring Powder ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Flour, Bun ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Flour, Self-raising ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Flour, Pea ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Gelatine Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Ginger ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Ginger Ground ... ..	—	6	6	6	—	—	—
Ginger Wine Essence ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Golden Raising Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Gravy Powder ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Jam, Blackcurrant ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Junket Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Pate ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Milk ... ..	39	43	82	73	9	9	—
Milk, Evaporated ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Minced Meat Loaf ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Mustard ... ..	—	8	8	8	—	—	—
Mustard, liquid ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Nutmeg, ground ... ..	—	7	7	7	—	—	—
Oatmeal ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Ovaltine ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Paste, Anchovy ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Paste, Fish ... ..	—	9	9	9	—	—	—
Paste, Salmon and Shrimp ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper ... ..	6	3	9	9	—	—	—



# Samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act—contd.

	Formal	Informal	Total	Genuine	Adulterated	Vendor Cautioned	Vendor prosecuted
<b>Foods</b>							
Pepper, black ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper, white ... ..	—	5	5	5	—	—	—
Pudding Mixture ... ..	—	4	4	3	—	—	—
Pickling Spice ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Raising Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Red Colouring ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Salisbury Beer ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Savouree ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Soups ... ..	—	4	4	4	—	—	—
Soup Powders ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Spice, Mixed ... ..	—	7	7	7	—	—	—
Sponge Mixture ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Sponge Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Spread, Bloater ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Spread, Fish ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Spread, Sandwich ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Spread, Smoked Herring ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Stout ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Stuffing ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Sausages, Beef ... ..	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sugar ... ..	1	4	5	4	1	1	—
Tea ... ..	3	—	3	3	—	—	—
Vinegar, Malt ... ..	—	5	5	5	—	—	—
Vinegar, Non-brewed ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
<b>Soft Drinks</b>							
Dry Ginger ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Grape Fruit Squash ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Lime Juice ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Lemonade ... ..	—	4	4	1	3	—	—
Limeade ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Barley ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Lemon Squash ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Lime Juice Cordial ... ..	—	2	2	—	2	—	—
Orange ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Orange Squash ... ..	—	4	4	2	2	—	—
Orange Flavour Cordial ... ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Sparkling Special ... ..	—	2	2	1	1	—	—
<b>Drugs</b>							
Aspirin Tablets ... ..	1	3	4	3	1	1	—
Boracic Ointment ... ..	—	4	4	4	—	—	—
Camphorated Oil ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Cascara Sagrada ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Castor Oil ... ..	—	5	5	5	—	—	—
Cod Liver Oil ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—

**Samples taken for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act—contd.**

	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adulterated</i>	<i>Vendor Cautioned</i>	<i>Vendor prosecuted</i>
<b>Drugs</b>							
Epsom Salts ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Eucalyptus, Oil of ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Glycerine ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Iodine, Tincture of ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Liquorice Powder ... ..	—	3	3	3	—	—	—
Petroleum Jelly ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Quinine, Ammoniated Tinc- ture of ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Starch and Boric Powder ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Senna Pods ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Soda, Bicarbonate of ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Sweetening Tablets ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
Sulphur, Flowers of ... ..	—	4	4	4	—	—	—
Sulphur Ointment ... ..	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Zinc Ointment ... ..	2	6	8	5	3	3	—
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>—</b>

## SECTION F

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

#### **Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis**

In the latter half of 1947 there was an outbreak of acute poliomyelitis in various parts of the country, and in Poole and the surrounding districts a number of cases occurred. 15 cases were notified in Poole, of whom 10 were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Seven of these developed paralysis. The remaining five cases were not diagnosed until the onset of paralysis and were admitted to the General Hospital. There were two deaths from poliomyelitis and one from polioencephalitis; one occurred in Alderney Hospital, another in Cornelia Hospital, and the third in the City Isolation Hospital, Oxford.

This disease became notifiable in 1912 and there have been several outbreaks recorded in this country, but none to compare in numbers with the outbreak in 1947, when the disease became epidemic.

I think it is a reasonable assumption that in this disease the number of cases diagnosed and notified is very small compared with the incidence of the specific infection in the population. In epidemic times a febrile reaction may well be due to infection with the virus, but it is only in a few cases that the condition becomes recognisable as infantile paralysis and only in a very few cases does paralysis occur. Many sub-clinical cases thus escape notice.

It was the policy in this borough to admit to hospital all suspected cases and quite a number of cases in which a diagnosis of poliomyelitis could not be confirmed were admitted.

#### **Measles**

The incidence of this disease was higher in 1947 than in 1946; there were 882 cases notified and no deaths occurred. Severe cases and those with the complication of broncho-pneumonia were admitted to hospital. 25 cases were admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital during the year.

#### **Whooping Cough**

This disease was less prevalent than in 1946. There were 219 cases and no deaths. 8 cases presenting complications were admitted to hospital.

#### **Streptococcal Fever (Scarlet Fever)**

63 cases were notified, of whom 40 were admitted to hospital. Of recent years, this disease has become very mild in type with few complications. In 1947 there were no deaths. The admission of all cases of scarlet fever is not encouraged, but where it is found that the facilities for home isolation are unsatisfactory or where the case is associated with the distribution of food or milk, admission is not only encouraged but insisted on.

The term scarlet fever is very misleading, both to the medical profession and to the public. The use of such a term as streptococcal fever should be helpful. It is manifestly absurd to notify as an infectious disease a child with a streptococcal tonsillitis and a rash, and not to notify the mother, the primary case, who has a streptococcal sore throat of the same strain but has no rash.

Whether or not a rash develops in a patient suffering from streptococcal fever depends on the level of immunity to the erythrogenic toxin of the organism. A case without a rash is just as dangerous from the infectivity point of view as one with a rash.

An example of this occurred in a general hospital where two nurses shared a room. One developed streptococcal tonsillitis but was not reported, the other developed streptococcal tonsillitis with a rash. She was reported as scarlet fever and removed to hospital. The other girl was sent back to duty in the hospital wards within a few days. Streptococci of the same type as those causing scarlet fever in her friend were cultured from her throat three days after she returned to duty, and had given rise to several streptococcal infections.

### Diphtheria

6 cases of diphtheria were notified in 1947. The diagnosis was confirmed in 5 of these. No deaths occurred. The incidence of this disease and its death rate since 1907 are shown below :—

Year	Notification	Deaths	Year	Notification	Deaths
1907	1.50	.58	1928	.85	.02
1908	1.39	.24	1929	4.25	.26
1909	.89	.19	1930	3.38	.15
1910	2.07	.19	1931	1.55	.06
1911	1.25	.23	1932	.94	.02
1912	1.70	.47	1933	.19	.02
1913	1.21	.28	1934	.13	—
1914	1.57	.17	1935	.27	.04
1915	.77	.12	1936	.29	.05
1916	1.06	.12	1937	.16	.03
1917	1.06	.18	1938	.16	—
1918	1.11	.17	1939	.40	.04
1919	1.87	.10	1940	.56	—
1920	3.25	.02	1941	.18	.06
1921	1.52	.08	1942	1.06	.13
1922	.60	.05	1943	.60	.13
1923	.11	—	1944	.61	.03
1924	.46	.03	1945	.15	.01
1925	.76	.05	1946	.10	.02
1926	.26	—	1947	.06	—
1927	.04	—			

The progressive decline in incidence and deaths is attributed to active immunisation which was started towards the end of 1929 when an epidemic was well under way.

During 1947, 1,063 children under 15 were immunised, the prophylactic used being alum precipitated toxoid in two doses at a month's interval. Of these children, 1,001 were under 5, and 62 were between 5 and 15. A further 1,099, who had been immunised several years previously, were given a reinforcing dose to raise the level of their immunity. At the end of 1947 it was estimated that 52.03 per cent. of pre-school children and 89.8 per cent. of school children had been immunised.

### **Venereal Diseases**

The prevention and treatment of Venereal Diseases are the responsibility of the Dorset County Council.

Facilities for the treatment of patients in the Borough and for merchant seamen in the Port are available as follows :—

At the Cornelia and East	}	Tuesday—Women, 5 p.m.
Dorset Hospital, Poole		Friday—Men, 5 p.m.
At the Royal Victoria and	}	Wednesday and Saturday—
West Hants Hospital,		Women, 2.30-3.30 p.m.
Boscombe	}	Men, 4.0-5.0 p.m.

Details regarding the number of patients and the types of disease treated are recorded in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health, Dorset.

# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947

Disease	At all ages	Number of Cases											Removed to Hospital
		Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 years and over
Anterior Poliomyelitis	15	2	—	1	1	—	1	3	2	5	—	—	14
Cerebro-spinal Fever	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4
*Diphtheria ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	4
Dysentery ...	13	3	3	—	—	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	6
Erysipelas ...	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Measles ...	882	21	88	114	121	136	329	31	22	15	3	10	5
Ophthalmia Neonatm.	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	23
Pneumonia ...	62	2	2	3	—	5	9	2	3	7	10	11	4
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	5
Scarlet Fever ...	63	—	—	2	3	1	16	30	8	2	—	—	6
Whooping Cough ...	219	22	23	26	34	45	57	4	1	3	3	1	50
Scabies ...	119	3	3	5	1	2	21	31	10	23	10	10	10
Total ...	1420	59	119	151	162	191	438	104	46	69	29	35	17
													140

\* Diphtheria — 6 cases were notified, of which five proved to be diphtheria, and one was found to be a condition other than diphtheria.



## Tuberculosis

The Dorset County Council is the Local Authority for the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis.

Particulars are given of the position regarding the incidence of the disease in recent years.

	First Notifications		Formerly notified new residents		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Other Forms	Pulmonary	Other Forms	Pulmonary	Other Forms
1925	59	18	12	1	33	6
1930	61	14	3	1	48	6
1935	47	14	12	—	52	3
1940	47	13	15	—	39	11
1941	53	10	14	—	42	5
1942	55	10	8	1	38	4
1943	55	17	12	1	34	2
1944	73	27	20	2	45	6
1945	49	11	27	2	37	5
1946	65	11	31	6	47	8
1947	87	11	37	2	40	3

For the year under review, the details are as follows :—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
1-	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-	3	6	—	3	1	—	—	2
15-	13	9	3	1	2	5	—	—
25-	13	8	1	1	6	2	—	1
35-	10	5	1	—	4	5	—	—
45-	7	3	—	—	2	1	—	—
55-	4	1	—	—	5	1	—	—
65 & upwards	3	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Totals	54	33	5	6	25	15	—	3

Of the deaths from the respiratory form :—

14	had been notified during	1947	5	had been notified during	1942
5	" "	" "	1946	4	" "
4	" "	" "	1945	1	" "
4	" "	" "	1944	1	" "
2	" "	" "	1943		

The 3 non-pulmonary deaths were due to tuberculous meningitis.

**Cases admitted to the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital,  
1947**

	Poole Borough	Outside Districts	Services	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	40	9	2	51
Diphtheria ... ..	5	3	—	8
Tonsillitis ... ..	8	1	1	10
Dysentery ... ..	17	1	2	20
Enteritis ... ..	21	3	3	27
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	4	7	—	11
Puerperal Fever ... ..	2	—	—	2
Erysipelas ... ..	5	1	—	6
Measles ... ..	25	10	1	36
Rubella ... ..	2	1	1	4
Whooping Cough ... ..	8	2	—	10
Chickenpox ... ..	4	2	—	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—	—	2
Infective Hepatitis ... ..	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	4	1	—	5
Glandular Fever ... ..	4	1	—	5
Poliomyelitis ... ..	8	20	—	28
Polioencephalitis ... ..	2	2	—	4
Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	—	1
Streptococcal Infection ... ..	1	1	—	2
Pemphigus ... ..	1	—	—	1
Scabies ... ..	2	—	—	2
Transverse Myelitis ... ..	—	2	—	2
Skin Conditions ... ..	3	—	—	3
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage ... ..	1	—	—	1
Babies accompanying Mothers ... ..	3	—	—	3
Mothers accompanying Babies ... ..	2	—	—	2
Other Conditions ... ..	18	7	—	25
	193	74	11	278

BOROUGH OF POOLE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Port Medical Officer

*On the Health of the Port of Poole*

FOR THE YEAR

1947



## PREFACE

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, acting as the Port Health Authority.*

I submit for your information and consideration my Report for the year 1947. It is made in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health, which prescribe the duties of the Medical Officer of Health, and with Ministry of Health Circular 210/46, dated 2nd September, 1946, and Circular 161/47, dated 5th November, 1947.

### **Constitution of the Port Health Authority**

The Port was permanently constituted a Port Sanitary Authority by an order of the Local Government Board dated 21st September, 1887, and an amending order dated 27th February, 1909.

The Port Health Authority is the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough, acting by the Council.

### **Limits of Jurisdiction**

" The jurisdiction of the said Port Sanitary Authority shall extend to so much of the said Port of Poole as lies to the westward of a straight line drawn across the mouth of Poole Harbour from the easternmost point of North Haven to the easternmost point of South Haven ; together with the waters of the said port within such limits, and the place or places for the time being appointed as the Customs Boarding Station or Stations for such part of the said Port, and every other place for the time being appointed for the mooring or anchoring of ships for such part of the said Port, under any regulations for the prevention of the spread of diseases issued under the authority of the statutes in that behalf ; and the watersides of the District of the said Port Sanitary Authority constituted as aforesaid, and the docks, basins, harbours, creeks, rivers, channels, roads, bays and streams belonging to that part of the said Port for which such Authority is constituted as aforesaid."

As in previous years, during 1947 the Port Medical Staff met all incoming flying boats and carried out medical inspection of passengers and crew, and the duties under the Aliens Order of 1920. The daily service necessitated irregular hours of work and week-end duty. On the 1st December, 1945, the Port Sanitary Regulations, 1933, as amended by the Port Health Regulations, 1945, came into operation. The new Regulations made no fundamental change in the procedure of Port Health Authorities, but certain amendments have been made which reinforce the powers of the Port Medical Officer in dealing with the Convention diseases.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the staff of the British Overseas Airways Corporation, Immigration Officers, Customs Officers and other Port officials for their co-operation with the Port Medical Officers in the discharge of their duties.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE CHESNEY.

*January, 1949.*

*Port Medical Officer*



## PART II

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PORT MEDICAL OFFICER  
AND MEDICAL INSPECTOR OF ALIENS FOR THE YEAR  
1947.****(a) POOLE MARINE AIRPORT.**

The Medical Officer of Health of the Borough of Poole is also Port Medical Officer of Poole, and Medical Inspector of Aliens under the Aliens Order, 1920. He has had experience in the "Convention" diseases in India, Burma and the Far East, and holds the Certificate of the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. He is assisted by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, who is Deputy Port Medical Officer and a Medical Inspector of Aliens. In addition, the Assistant Medical Officer of Health has been appointed a Medical Inspector of Aliens and is available for relief duty at the Marine Airport.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector of the Borough is Port Sanitary Inspector, and is assisted by the Deputy Port Sanitary Inspector.

Close co-operation exists between the officers of H.M. Customs, the Immigration Officers, the officers of the British Overseas Airways Corporation, the Harbour Master and the Port Medical Officers.

During the war years in the interests of national security no reference was made in the annual report of the Port Medical Officer to the medical work in connection with the airport in Poole Harbour.

Late in 1939, British Overseas Airways Corporation (Imperial Airways) transferred its flying-boat base from Southampton to Poole. From 1939 to 1943 the medical inspection of passengers had to be carried out on board the aircraft at moorings in the Harbour as no suitable facilities for medical inspection ashore had been provided. This procedure made efficiency difficult and was of great inconvenience to the passengers and to the medical staff. Since 1943 the medical inspection of passengers and crew has been done ashore in suitable premises where facilities are also available for the Immigration and Customs authorities. Up to 1946, passengers were brought ashore at Poole Quay, and were medically inspected at Carter's Pottery buildings, then in occupation by the B.O.A.C. In May, 1946, B.O.A.C. transferred its headquarters to the Harbour Yacht Club, Lilliput, the Poole headquarters of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The facilities afforded here for the medical inspection and examination of passengers and crew are very satisfactory. Each aircraft arriving is met by Customs Officers who, acting on behalf of the Port Medical Officer, receive from the Commander the Aircraft Declaration of Health. If this declaration is satisfactory, the passengers and crew

are conducted to the Medical Inspection Room, where they are interviewed individually by the Port Medical Officer and, if considered necessary, medically examined. If there is any question of infection on board, the passengers and crew remain on board until the craft is visited by the Port Medical Officer. The passengers are not deemed to have landed until they have passed through the Medical Inspection Room.

A signed declaration giving details of the passenger's health and movements during the fourteen days prior to arrival in this country and giving particulars of his vaccination and inoculation state is submitted by each passenger. Passengers are then given the official health landing card and verbally instructed to report to a doctor any illness occurring within 21 days. Passengers who have come from an area where smallpox is prevalent, and who are not sufficiently protected by vaccination, are vaccinated on arrival or put under surveillance for the necessary period, the Medical Officer of Health of the district to which they are proceeding being notified.

As the planes on the Eastern service come from areas where the Convention diseases (smallpox, cholera, plague and typhus) are endemic, vigilance on the part of the Port Medical staff is required to safeguard as far as possible against the entry of these diseases into the country.

The number of aircraft and passengers which arrived at the marine airport in each year is given in the following table :—

1939 : 15 aircraft with 346 passengers

1940 : 177 aircraft with 2036 passengers

1941 : 125 aircraft with 714 passengers

From 1942 more detailed figures are available :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Aircraft</i>	<i>No. of Crew</i>	<i>British Passengers</i>	<i>Alien Passengers</i>	<i>Total number of Passengers and Crew</i>
1942	129	1027	1681	1191	3899
1943	229	1915	2760	1631	6306
1944	170	1309	1620	387	3316
1945	463	3513	7271	857	11641
1946	373	2781	5258	578	8617
1947	401	3027	5882	598	9507

The decrease in the activities of the airport in 1944 resulted from a temporary suspension of services due to the activities in the Harbour preceding and during the invasion of France, Poole Harbour being one of the invasion bases.

In 1947, 401 aircraft arrived at the Marine Airport, Poole. The majority of these were flying boats on the Eastern service, the route being Singapore, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bahrein, Basra, Cairo, Augusta, Marignane, Poole.

The following table shows the distribution of the arrivals :—

The Eastern service	...	...	...	189
Australia (via Dutch East Indies and the Eastern service)	...	...	...	147
Middle East (Cairo, Augusta)	...	...	...	47
South Africa (Durban)	...	...	...	11
North America (Baltimore)	...	...	...	2
France (Marignane)	...	...	...	5

Of the 9,507 arrivals, 598 were aliens. Reference by the Immigration Officer to the Medical Inspector of Aliens was not necessary in any case, and no certificates were required to be issued under the Aliens Order of 1920.

Of 35 passengers and crew who were ill on arrival, 12 were admitted to the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital, and the remainder were allowed to proceed to their destination with instructions to report to their family doctor, the Medical Officer of Health for the district being notified.

On the occurrence of the outbreak of cholera in Egypt in September, 1947, the Station Superintendent was notified regarding the precautions to be taken, and the unloading of fish, shellfish, fruit and vegetables from Cairo was forbidden. The emptying and chlorination of all water tanks on arrival was advised and put into operation.

The anti-cholera vaccination state of the air crews was checked and steps were taken by the British Overseas Airways Corporation to ensure that all passengers arriving in Poole had valid certificates of inoculation against cholera. No cases suggestive of cholera were seen at the Airport, but one passenger, 24 hours after arrival in London, was provisionally diagnosed. Bacteriological investigation and careful clinical examination did not confirm the diagnosis.

### **Sanitary Inspection of Aircraft**

Inspections of aircraft were carried out by the Port Sanitary Inspector or Deputy Port Sanitary Inspector. While no attempt was made to inspect all aircraft arriving at the Marine Airport, surprise inspections were carried out periodically to check sanitary conditions and special inspections made where the Medical Officer on duty

considered it necessary or a Commander of an Aircraft reported conditions requiring investigation. On all inspections, particular attention was paid to water supply, sanitary accommodation and stewards' galleys and search made for any evidence of rats, vermin, mosquitos, etc.

During the year, 45 aircraft were inspected. In no instance was there any evidence of rats on board, and no reports of the presence of rats were received during the year. Disinfection of aircraft, after cases of infectious disease, was carried out on two occasions. In no instance was it found necessary to carry out disinsectisation of aircraft arriving in Poole from the endemic Yellow Fever Areas.

### **Water Supplies in Aircraft**

During 1947, 92 samples of water supplies were taken from aircraft entering or leaving the Poole Marine Airport and submitted for bacteriological examination. In October, during the outbreak of Cholera in Egypt, samples of water supplies taken from aircraft arriving from the East showed heavy contamination of faecal origin in all samples. Following this, the water supplies of all aircraft entering the Marine Airport during a period of two weeks were sampled for bacteriological examination. 44 samples were taken from 21 aircraft and these confirmed that, with the exception of two emergency supplies, the water supplies on all incoming aircraft were heavily contaminated with *B. Coli*, (faecal type). Contamination was particularly heavy in the case of drinking water carried in vacuum flasks, which were also used for carrying milk, cooked meals and other foods.

During the same period, 23 samples of water supplies were taken from 9 outgoing aircraft. Only 8 of these samples were satisfactory, the remainder showing heavy contamination of faecal origin, with all drinking waters from vacuum flasks particularly bad. Check samples on the Poole Corporation supply used at the Airport were all highly satisfactory and swabs and rinses confirmed that all flasks and most tanks and containers on aircraft were seriously contaminated.

The matter was taken up with the Sanitary Adviser to the B.O.A.C., and a system of thorough sterilisation of the tanks, containers and flasks of all aircraft using Poole Marine Airport, was devised and put into operation immediately, with satisfactory results. The use of a type of vacuum flask suitable for easy sterilisation was also advised. Frequent checks were made on the methods of sterilisation, and sampling on outgoing aircraft was continued until, by the middle of December, 16 successive samples from 6 outgoing aircraft were reported as satisfactory.

The Sanitary Adviser to the B.O.A.C. took up the question of contamination of water supplies and containers at overseas stations and, until satisfactory conditions have been achieved, instructions were given for the use of Chloramine tablets for the sterilisation of water supplies taken on aircraft at overseas stations.

There is room for considerable improvement in the methods at present used for carrying water supplies on flying boats, particularly in the reduction of the number of supplies and in the design of water tanks, containers and flasks for easy cleansing and sterilisation. Flasks used for water supplies should not be used for food.



## I. Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during the Year 1947

Table A

Class	Number	Tonnage	Number inspected by the Sanitary Inspector	Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels on which defects were found and reported to Ministry of Transport Surveyors	Number of vessels reported as having died, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
<b>Foreign</b>							
Steamers ...	15	4700	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
*Motor ...	64	8980	50	—	—	—	—
Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yachts ...	79	1220	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Foreign</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>14900</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Coastwise</b>							
Steamers ...	298	128779	20	3	2	—	—
Motor ...	394	63933	12	1	1	—	—
Sailing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Coastwise</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>192712</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total Foreign and Coastwise</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>207612</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

\* Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers

## (b) SEAPORT OF POOLE.



## II. Character of Trade of Port

(a) The only regular passenger services are local services communicating between Isle of Wight, Bournemouth, Poole, Swanage and Weymouth.

**Passenger Traffic during 1947**  
**Table B**

<i>No. of Passengers</i>	<i>Passenger accommodation (not classified)</i>	<i>Transmigrants</i>
Inwards ... ..	*326	—
Outwards ... ..	Not recorded	—

\* Mainly from yachts.

### (b) Cargo Traffic

Imports from abroad were chiefly timber and fertilisers from the Baltic and near continental ports. The only exports were china clay. Coastal traffic was chiefly in coal, oil, fertilisers, potatoes, sugar and general cargoes inwards, and tar oil, oil and potatoes outwards.

(c) The Foreign ports from which vessels arrive are :—

Antwerp, Rotterdam, Bremen, Emden, Hamburg, Lubeck, Skoghall, Solvesborg, Gefle, Kotka, Fecamp, Le Havre, Alderney and Guernsey.

## III. Water Supply

The water supply available for the port and shipping is that from the town mains and is a softened, filtered and chlorinated water of high bacterial purity. 160 samples of this supply were taken during the year for bacteriological examination and all were reported as Class I — highly satisfactory. The water supply is delivered to ships direct from the mains on the Quay. During the year, 4 samples of water supplies were taken for bacteriological examination from ships in the Port. All were reported as Class I—highly satisfactory.

During the summer months, one small private water boat was in operation in the port for the supply of yachts in the harbour. This was inspected on four occasions and found satisfactory. Samples of the water supply were taken for bacteriological examination on three occasions and all were reported as Class I — highly satisfactory.

## IV. Port Health Regulations, 1933 and 1945

### (1) Declarations of Health.

Supplies of the standard Declaration Forms are issued to the Harbour Master, the Customs Officers and the Pilots' Office. These are given by the first of these officers boarding ships to the Masters of ships on arrival within the harbour and returned to the Boarding Officer of the Customs, who forwards them immediately to the Port Medical Officer.

(2) Boarding of Vessels on arrival.

Vessels are boarded upon arrival by H.M. Customs Officers and arrangements have been made for the Boarding Officer to contact the Port Medical Officer immediately by 'phone in the case of inward vessels requiring special or immediate attention.

(3) Notifications of all ships arriving in the harbour are collected daily from the Harbour Master's Office for the use of the Port Medical Officer and the Port Sanitary Inspectors.

(4) Mooring Stations.

A mooring station has been established at a point in the main channel, half way between Parkstone Shoal Light Buoy and Stakes Buoy, just clear of shipping. If so directed by the Port Medical Officer, the Southern end of the New Quay, Hamworthy, can be used also.

(5) Detention of Ships and Persons.

There are no standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.

(6) Occasion has not arisen for the application of Article 16 (Restriction on boarding or leaving ships not free from control).

(7) Arrangements for Medical Inspections, Hospital Accommodation, Disinfection, etc.

(a) Special premises for medical examinations have not been provided at the seaport. Medical inspection rooms and waiting rooms, etc., are however available at all times at the Local Authority's Clinic close to the Quay.

(b) The cleansing and disinfection facilities (including steam disinfection and cleansing stations) of the Local Authority are available to the Port Health Authority at all times for the cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing, and other articles.

(c) Temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the Regulations is available at the Alderney Infectious Diseases Hospital, by arrangement with the Local Authority.

(d) Hospital accommodation is reserved at the Wareham and Purbeck R.D.C.'s Isolation Hospital at Arne, Dorset, for cases of Smallpox. Other infectious diseases are treated at the Borough Infectious Diseases Hospital, Poole.

(e) The full-time Ambulance Service of the Local Authority is also available at all times.

(f) Supervision of contacts. Infectious diseases contacts proceeding home are provided with notification postcards for use if required and immediate notification sent to the Medical Officer of the district to which they are proceeding.

(8) and (9) Facilities for Bacteriological Examinations.

The Poole Branch of the Dorset County Public Health Laboratories provides facilities for routine and special bacteriological and pathological examinations, including the examination of rats for plague.

(10) Venereal Diseases.

Facilities for diagnosis and treatment for seamen suffering from Venereal Diseases are provided at two clinics, as follows :—

Cornelia Hospital, Longfleet Road, Poole—Fridays, 5 p.m.

Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Shelley Road, Boscombe—  
Wednesdays and Saturdays, 4 p.m.

Printed notices are made available for crews and display notices are also exhibited in suitable places in the vicinity of the Port.

(11) Arrangement for Interment of Dead.

Arrangements for interment of dead are as at the Local Authority's Infectious Diseases Hospital.

(12) Cases of Infectious sickness on Vessels.

No cases of infectious sickness were landed from vessels during the year and no cases occurred of a vessel having infectious sickness on board during a voyage to the Port. Tables C and D are therefore omitted.

## **V. Measures against Rodents.**

The Rodent Control Staff (Rodent Officer and three operatives) of the Local Authority are available for work in the port, and all warehouses, etc., in the port are included in the area of the Local Authority's rodent control scheme.

### **Measures taken in ships**

Masters and crew are interrogated and crew's quarters, etc., examined for evidence of rats during routine inspections of ships by Port Sanitary Inspectors. Where evidence is found or suspected, detailed examinations are made by Rodent Officer and deratisation carried out by him or under his supervision. Methods used for small infestations are trapping and baiting (Ministry of Food systems). Fumigation by sulphur dioxide can also be carried out in small infestations, but large scale fumigations would be carried out by arrangement with fumigation specialist firms from or at Southampton.

### **Measures taken on shore**

Warehouses, etc., in the port area are surveyed yearly by the Rodent Control Staff of the Local Authority under their block control scheme and all infestations found dealt with. Methods used include trapping, baiting (Ministry of Food system) and gassing. Many of the warehouses in the Quay area are very old and difficult to rat-proof, but rat-proofing of premises, such as flour mills and grain stores, found to be subject to rat infestation, is an essential part of the block control system in force in the district.



### Deratisation Certificates

Poole is not an "approved port" for the issue of Deratisation and Deratisation Exemption Certificates.

Tables G and H (omitted) are in the circumstances "Nil" returns. On seven occasions during the year, the Deratisation Certificates of ships from foreign ports were found to be out of date.

## VI. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces

Table J. Classification of Nuisances

<i>Nationality of Vessel</i>	<i>Number inspected during year</i>	<i>Defects of original construction</i>	<i>Structural defects through wear and tear</i>	<i>Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health</i>
British ...	31	—	1	2
Other Nations	59	—	—	1

## VII. Food Inspection

(1) Apart from Potatoes from the Channel Islands, there were no imports of foodstuffs.

(2) Shell-fish — No oysters are being dredged — Mussels are practically extinct and the Chief Fishery Officer of the Southern Sea Fisheries District reported in October, 1947, that "the taking of cockles has been very poor."





# REPORT

*to the*

Local Education Authority

*on the*

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

*in the*

BOROUGH OF POOLE



## PART III

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Report of the Borough School Medical Officer for the year  
1947.

## COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION, 1947

*Chairman :* Alderman H. S. CARTER, O.B.E., J.P.  
*Vice-Chairman :* Alderman J. BRIGHT, J.P.  
*His Worship the Mayor :* Councillor D. A. HAYNES, J.P.

*Aldermen :*

F. J. BACON, J.P. A. J. DACOMBE, J.P.  
 W. C. J. SHORTT

*Councillors :*

S. D. BALLAM	Mrs. E. M. HICKINSON, J.P.	F. REEVES, M.M.
G. BRAVERY	Miss M. M. LLEWELLIN, J.P.	W. D. SIMMONDS, O.B.E.
G. S. BROWN, J.P.	Mrs. K. A. M. MACANDREW	A. THURSTON
C. H. GOULD	A. J. H. PEARCE	G. YEATMAN
E. A. HEBLEY	A. PENN	

*Co-opted Members :*

The Rev. Canon H. BARTON	The Very Rev. Canon P. D. LEAHY
The Rev. W. DICKINSON	Mr. A. J. MARTIN
Miss W. M. ALLEN	Mr. L. J. W. FRY

*Representatives of the Local Education Authority*

Miss K. M. STYLE	Mrs. M. CHAMPION
Eng. Commander R. H. BAKER	Mr. R. E. CHISMAN

## STAFF

<i>School Medical Officer :</i>	George Chesney, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
<i>Deputy School Medical Officer :</i>	J. A. Sinclair, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Assistant School Medical Officer :</i>	A. C. Mackenzie, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Senior Dental Officer :</i>	K. G. Hyland, L.D.S.
<i>Assistant Dental Officers :</i>	W. K. Rimmer, L.D.S., D.D.S. R. Allen, L.D.S. (appointed 1.9.47)
<i>School Nurses (Health Visitors) :</i>	Miss M. M. Kingsbury, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse) Mrs. M. Stapley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss D. R. Harding, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (Resigned 4.7.47) Miss I. Koster, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss V. Kusel, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss L. B. Lever, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N. Mrs. V. Narbett, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. Miss H. Brooks, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.C. (appointed 1.9.47)

<i>Dental Attendants :</i>	Miss G. Forrest ; Miss R. Nicholls. Miss M. Emes (appointed 1.12.47)
<i>Clerks :</i>	Mr. F. B. Edwards ; Miss P. Giles ; Miss P. Stevens.
<b>Part-time Consultants and Specialists :</b>	
<i>Orthopaedic Surgeon :</i>	H. H. Langston, F.R.C.S.
<i>Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons :</i>	A. Mackenzie Ross, M.D., Ch.B., D.L.O. C. R. Salkeld, B.A., B.M., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeons :</i>	E. R. Bowes, M.B., D.O.M.S.
<i>Physician :</i>	Harold Cookson, M.D., F.R.C.P.
<i>Radiologist :</i>	D. D. Malpas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
<i>Dental Surgeon :</i>	R. G. S. Holmes, L.D.S. (resigned 30.9.47)
<b>Medical Auxiliaries :</b>	
<i>Physiotherapist :</i>	Mrs. D. Beale, M.C.S.P.
<i>Orthoptist :</i>	Miss J. Richardson, D.B.O.
<i>Speech Therapist :</i>	Miss N. O'Driscoll, L.C.S.T.

## SCHOOLS.

### Primary

At the beginning of 1947 there were in the Borough 23 primary schools. Two of the oldest primary schools in the Borough, Canford Magna and St. James' Voluntary C. of E. Schools, were closed on 25th July 1947. Of the remaining 21 primary schools 13 are County Primary Schools, provided and maintained by the Local Education Authority, and 8 are Voluntary Primary Schools of which 6 are provided by the Church of England and 2 by the Roman Catholic Church.

### Nursery Classes

There are 10 nursery classes with accommodation for 260 children, attached to infant schools.

### Secondary Modern Schools

There are 5 Secondary Modern Schools in the Borough—4 county and 1 voluntary. The county schools are the Kemp Welch Boys and Girls and the Henry Harbin Boys and Girls Schools. The voluntary school is the Russell Cotes Voluntary Boys School. Work on the new Herbert Carter Secondary Modern Mixed School at Hamworthy started in 1947.

### Grammar Schools

The administration of the Poole Grammar (Boys) and the Parkstone Grammar (Girls) Schools was transferred by the Local Education Authority (Dorset County Council) to the Borough of Poole Committee for Education on 1st April 1946, but owing to shortage of medical staff it was not until 1947 that the medical inspection and treatment of pupils attending these schools were carried out by the Medical Officers of the Poole Committee for Education.

### Private Schools

There are seventeen private schools which do not come within the scope of the School Health Service. These schools have accommodation for over 200 pupils.

### Accommodation

Numbers on roll at September 1947 :

Grammar Schools	...	...	...	1384
Secondary Modern Schools	...	...	...	2412
Primary Schools	...	...	...	5581
Nursery Schools	...	...	...	260

Total 9637

Average attendances for year ending 31st December, 1947 :

Grammar Schools	...	...	...	1231
Secondary Modern Schools	...	...	...	1928
Primary Schools	...	...	...	4975
Nursery Schools	...	...	...	190

## THE AIM OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The chief functions of the School Health Service are the prevention of disease and advising on matters affecting the health of the school child. It has also certain remedial functions such as the treatment of minor ailments and the treatment of special defects.

The School Medical Officer is also the Medical Officer of Health and the Medical Officer in charge of Maternity and Child Welfare. This arrangement has obvious advantages as medical records of children attending the welfare clinics are available when the children come under the care of the School Health Service. As the Medical Officer is also the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital the following up of cases of infectious disease and their contacts is greatly facilitated.

The work of the School Health Service covers :

- (1) Routine and special inspection and re-inspection.
- (2) Class-by-class inspection by the School Nurses.
- (3) Minor ailment clinics.
- (4) Special clinics.
- (5) Ascertainment and classification of handicapped pupils.
- (6) Diphtheria immunisation.
- (7) Investigation and control of infectious diseases.
- (8) Hospital treatment of school children.
- (9) Medical examination for superannuation of teachers and others employed by the Local Education Authority.
- (10) Hygiene and sanitation of school premises, including school kitchens and canteens. (See p. 43 of Report)

## **MEDICAL INSPECTION.**

### **Routine Inspection**

Section 49 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations provides for the medical inspection at stated periods of pupils in attendance at every school, not being a Special School, maintained by the Local Education Authority. These inspections are conducted on the school premises and parents are invited to be present. The following are the approved arrangements :—

- (a) Every pupil who is admitted for the first time to a maintained school is inspected as soon as possible after the date of admission.
- (b) Every pupil attending a maintained primary school is inspected during the last year of his attendance at such a school.
- (c) Every pupil attending a maintained secondary school is inspected during the last year of his attendance at such a school.
- (d) Every pupil attending a maintained school or County college is inspected on such other occasions as the Minister or the Authority with the approval of the Minister may determine.

### **Special Inspections and Re-inspections**

Children found at routine inspection to be suffering from some definite defect are re-examined at intervals. Other "special" inspections are carried out at the request of the teacher. Such examinations may be carried out at a routine inspection or at an inspection arranged for that purpose.

### **Result of Medical Inspection**

During the year 2,567 children were examined at routine medical inspection. Of these 184 were nursery school children, 1312 were entrants, 693 in the second age group and 378 in the third age group.

Of the 2,567 children examined, 172 were found to require treatment for various conditions exclusive of defective nutrition, uncleanliness and dental caries.

The number of special inspections and re-inspections carried out was 175.

### **Nutrition**

Of the 2567 children examined at routine inspections 2456, (95.67%) were classified as good, 110 (4.28%) as fair and 1 (0.05%) as poor. The "normal" standard varies with the examining medical officer. Except in the case of children attending senior schools an accurate assessment of nutrition is not possible owing to the lack of facilities for measurement of height and weight.



### Uncleanliness

2 children were found to be infested with head lice. This figure however, does not give a true indication of the degree of infestation as mothers endeavour to present their children to the examining medical officer in as clean a state as possible. A more accurate assessment of the incidence of head infestation is obtained from the periodic general surveys carried out by the school nurses.

### Vaccination against Smallpox

Of the 2567 children examined at school medical inspections, only 546 or 21.27% had been vaccinated. The percentages of vaccinated children at the various age groups were :—

Entrants	...	...	...	26.75%
Second age group	...	...	...	16.75%
Third age group	...	...	...	20.90%

### Other Defects

Defective vision	...	109	Skin disease (including		
External eye disease	...	2	scabies)	...	4
Ear, nose and throat			Orthopaedic defects		20
defects	...	...	Other defects	...	1
		41			

In each case the child was referred for treatment to the minor ailment clinic, the appropriate special clinic or to the family doctor. These children are followed up at special school inspections in order to ascertain if the treatment has been carried out.

### Class by Class Inspection

Rapid general surveys are made periodically by the school nurses, the object being the promotion of personal cleanliness and the detection of contagious and infectious conditions. 550 visits for this purpose were paid to the schools and 21,151 individual examinations were made. Children found to be suffering from infectious or contagious conditions or any other condition requiring medical attention were referred to the appropriate school clinic or to their own doctor. 527 children were found to have head lice and arrangements were made for their treatment at home, at a minor ailment clinic, or in severe cases at the special head clinic. In the majority of children, the infestation was of a minor degree.

### Part-time Employment of school children

151 children were examined for fitness for employment ; 146 certificates of fitness were issued and 5 children were considered unfit for employment on medical grounds.

One child was examined for an entertainment licence, and one certificate was issued.

### MINOR AILMENT CLINICS

Minor Ailment Clinics are held as follows :—

- (1) The School Clinic, 67 Market Street, Old Town—each school day at 9 a.m.
- (2) The School Clinic, Shillito Road, Parkstone—each school day at 9 a.m.
- (3) Hamworthy School—Tuesday and Friday at 9 a.m.
- (4) Henry Harbin School—Thursday at 11 a.m.
- (5) Broadstone Women's Institute—Thursday at 9 a.m.
- (6) Kemp Welch School—Monday and Friday at 9 a.m.

A child may be referred to the clinic by the School Medical Officer following examination at school, by the child's own doctor, by the teacher, by the school attendance officer or by the parent. Only complaints of a minor nature are treated at the clinics. Children who require treatment outside the scope of the clinic are referred to their own doctor or to the general hospital.

Attendances at Minor Ailment Clinics in 1947 were as follows :—

			<i>No. of children</i>	<i>No. of attendances</i>
Old Town	...	...	529	3636
Parkstone	...	...	908	2837
Hamworthy	...	...	345	2819
Broadstone	...	...	101	354
Henry Harbin School	...	...	286	1015
Kemp Welch School	...	...	367	1193
			<hr/> 2536	<hr/> 11854

The following is a summary of defects found in children attending Minor Ailment Clinics during 1947 :—

Ringworm	...	...	21	Ear, nose and throat defects	404	
Scabies	...	...	46	Dental defects	...	91
Impetigo	...	...	77	Orthopaedic defects	...	96
Other skin conditions	...	...	25	Tuberculosis	...	2
Minor eye defects	...	...	33	Septic sores	...	1096
Defective vision	...	...	148	Cuts and minor injuries	...	651
Other eye defects	...	...	108			

Total : 2,798

### Special Clinics

If a child is found at school medical inspection or during attendance at a minor ailment clinic to be suffering from a defect of a special nature, he is referred to one of the following special clinics where the services of a specialist or qualified medical auxiliary are available.

\* Ophthalmic Clinic — Municipal Buildings, Tuesday and Thursday, 2 p.m.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic — Cornelia Hospital, Monday, 10.30 a.m.

Orthopaedic Clinic — 67 Market Street, Old Town, 2nd Tuesday of each month, 2 p.m.

X-ray Clinic for treatment of ringworm — Cornelia Hospital by appointment.

Aural Clinic — Municipal Buildings, 1st Thursday of each month, 10.30 a.m.

Child Guidance Clinic — 67 Market Street, Old Town — weekly on Thursdays (by appointment).

\* Speech Clinic — Municipal Buildings, Friday at 10 a.m.

\* Orthoptic Clinic — Municipal Buildings, Tuesday at 9.30 a.m.

\* In July 1947 these clinics were transferred to Torvaine, St. Peters Road, Parkstone.

### Report of Ophthalmic Specialist for 1947

The number of children seen at the Eye Clinic was 916. Of these 170 were children from the county districts on the borders of Poole. A number of children who had been given glasses in a previous year or who were under treatment for some other condition and were instructed to attend again are included in the total of 916.

Spectacles were prescribed or lenses changed in existing spectacles in 333 cases and 217 cases of squint were seen. Other conditions often more serious, were congenital cataract, ectopia lentis, retinitis pigmentosa, choroiditis, myopic atrophy; there were numerous cases of meibomian cysts, styes, blepharitis and conjunctivitis.

I am looking forward to the day when the ophthalmic treatment of children will be a complete service, starting if necessary in infancy, the treatment being carried out or at least supervised by the same personnel throughout. At present children under 5 are seen at Hospital and only on reaching this age are they transferred to the School Clinic. The commonest age for the appearance of a concomitant squint is 2-2½ and with an intelligent child, orthoptic training may usually be begun at 4-4½. To delay treatment until the child is 6 or 7 years old means that valuable time (and sometimes the only chance) is lost and that school work is interfered with by the frequent attendance for exercises. Generally speaking, the older the child is when the treatment of amblyopia and orthoptics are started, the slower is the progress made and the less the chances of cure.

I have noticed this year that a large number of children, in spite of having full normal vision when tested at the school inspections, have been singled out by the discerning eye of the School Medical Officer as in need of special ophthalmic examination. Most of these have been found to have large degrees of hypermetropia, for such a refractive error is quite compatible with normal distance vision, though at the expense of severe accommodative eye strain, with consequent headaches and difficulty with close work in school. Such children need glasses as urgently as any and are also particularly liable to develop convergent squints.

The treatment given to Poole children was as follows :—

Errors of refraction (including squint) ... ..	650
Children for whom spectacles were prescribed	323
Children for whom spectacles were obtained ...	296

### **Orthoptic Clinic**

There has been a great improvement during the year in the treatment of the squinting child. The Orthoptist now attends on three half days per week and some very gratifying results are beginning to appear. The waiting list, however, is still very long and a squinting child, for whom the prospects of a cure are excellent, will have to wait about a year before commencing treatment. (Another two sessions a week making five in all would enable two groups of children to have treatments twice a week each, leaving one half day for tests and orthoptic examinations.) Present conditions are, however, a great improvement on the past and, as this service improves and extends its scope, parents are becoming interested and are beginning to appreciate that treatment of squint requires both their co-operation and that of the child ; glasses if prescribed have to be worn constantly and the treatment of amblyopia may be tedious, but not until these two steps have been successfully followed can orthoptic training, if required, be usefully begun. As a result many fewer children are growing up with an almost blind 'lazy eye.'

67 Children attended during the year, making a total of 412 attendances. Of these 107 were for tests and 305 for treatment.

### **E.N.T. Clinic**

During 1947, 140 children were referred to the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic. 73 received operative treatment for tonsils and adenoids at the Cornelia and East Dorset Hospital.

### Orthopaedic Service

Orthopaedic defects in school children may be classed as major and minor.

Minor defects such as mild flat feet, slight knock-knees, faulty posture, etc., are usually treated by the School Medical Officer or treatment is carried out under his general supervision, either at the remedial clinic or in school.

Major defects which require more specialised advice and treatment are referred to the Consulting Surgeon who attends monthly at the clinic in Market Street, where children are seen by appointment.

Those requiring hospital treatment are admitted to the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital, Alton. On completion of treatment children remain under the general supervision of the School Medical Officer.

Severely crippled children who are unsuitable for attendance at an ordinary school may be admitted to special schools for the physically handicapped. In some cases, either because of difficulty in obtaining vacancies in suitable schools or in deference to the parents' wishes, arrangements are made for a supply teacher to visit the children in their own homes.

A remedial clinic is held in conjunction with the surgeon's clinic. At this clinic massage, electrical treatment and remedial exercises are given under the supervision of a trained physiotherapist.

**Table I**

Surgeon's Clinics during 1947	...	11
Cases seen for the first time	...	46
Cases reviewed	... ..	158



**Table 2 — Defects and Deformities**

<i>Defects and Deformities</i>	<i>Under treatment at end of 1946</i>	<i>New Cases in 1947</i>	<i>Transfer from M. &amp; C.W.</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Discharged by Surgeon</i>	<i>Discharged as Non-attender</i>	<i>Left School</i>	<i>left district</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>Remaining at end of 1947</i>
A. Congenital ... ..	17	6	1	24	4	4	4	0	12	12
B. Inflammatory ... ..	2	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	2
C. Traumatic and complications of trauma ... ..	3	2	0	5	4	0	0	0	4	1
D. Paralysis ... ..	19	1	3	23	4	0	0	0	4	19
E. Acquired ... ..	43	27	3	73	26	4	6	1	37	36
F. Diseases of Bone ... ..	2	3	0	5	3	0	0	0	3	2
G. Other orthopaedic defects not included above ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H. No orthopaedic defect ...	0	7	0	7	6	1	0	0	7	0
	86	47	7	140	48	9	10	1	68	72

Children requiring hospital treatment were treated in the Lord Mayor Treloar Hospital at Alton. Table 3 indicates the numbers dealt with.

**Table 3 — Hospital Cases**

<i>Patients in Alton at end of 1946</i>	<i>Patients Admitted during 1947</i>	<i>Patients Discharged during 1947</i>	<i>Patients Remaining at end of 1947</i>
6	7	10	3

**Table 4 — Physiotherapy**

<i>Massage and remedial Exercises</i>			<i>Electrical Treatment</i>		
<i>No. of children treated</i>	<i>No. of attendances</i>	<i>No. of Sessions</i>	<i>No. of children treated</i>	<i>No. of attendances</i>	<i>No. of Sessions</i>
45	1266	187	26	179	72



In addition the Dorset County Remedial Organiser combined remedial exercise classes in the schools. The object of the classes is to provide approved exercises for the children in their own schools. Teachers from the schools, preferably the gymnasts, are to receive special training to run these classes.

### **Aural Clinic**

The Aural Clinic was held monthly at the Municipal Buildings, Poole, and was attended by the Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeons.

Children who were suffering from or appeared to be suffering from defective hearing were referred, through the School Medical Officer, to the clinic.

Attendances at the clinic in 1947 were as follows :—

No of sessions held	...	...	...	6
No. of children who attended	...	...	...	18
No. found to have defective hearing	...	...	...	17
No. found to have no defect	...	...	...	1

### **Speech Therapy Clinic**

This Clinic, which for the first six months was held at the Municipal Buildings, was transferred to "Torvaine", St. Peter's Road, Parkstone, on 27th June, 1947. The Clinic is held weekly on Fridays and a speech therapist is in attendance. Children are referred through the School Medical Officer by head teachers, nurses and parents.

During the year 40 sessions were held and 53 patients were treated. In addition 15 children attended for testing. Of the 53 children treated, 8 showed marked improvement, and 9 were responding to treatment at the end of the year. In 19 cases treatment was discontinued for various reasons such as persistent absenteeism. 14 children were discharged on completion of treatment.

### **Child Guidance Clinic**

During the year an attempt was made to establish a Child Guidance Clinic in the borough. A psychiatrist was appointed on a sessional basis but it was impossible to obtain the services of an educational psychologist and a trained psychiatric social worker.

As there was a large number of children on the waiting list for child guidance it was decided to proceed with what staff could be obtained. An experienced welfare worker was appointed in place of a psychiatric social worker.

Children suffering from psychological disturbance or social maladjustment as shown by thieving, habitual truancy, phobias and neuroses of various kinds were referred for treatment.

The first session was held on 31st July, 1947 and weekly thereafter for 8 weeks, when the psychiatrist took up an appointment elsewhere and the clinic had to be temporarily discontinued. Altogether 8 sessions were held and 15 children attended for treatment. The total number of attendances was 22.

### HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

Handicapped pupils are defined in the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, as pupils who require special educational treatment.

The several categories of pupils requiring special educational treatment are :—

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| (a) Blind             | (g) Educationally sub-normal |
| (b) Partially sighted | (h) Epileptic                |
| (c) Deaf              | (i) Maladjusted              |
| (d) Partially deaf    | (j) Physically handicapped   |
| (e) Delicate          | (k) Defective speech         |
| (f) Diabetic          |                              |

Every blind, deaf, physically handicapped, epileptic or aphasic pupil must be educated in a special school, and in the case of a blind or epileptic child the school must be a boarding school.

A handicapped child of any other category may be educated in an ordinary school if special educational treatment suitable to his needs can be provided at such a school, and provided also that his presence is not detrimental to the interests of the other pupils.

### Handicapped Pupils

	Boys	Girls	Total
<i>Mentally handicapped</i>			
Number of children examined and reported on :	17	9	26
<i>Classification :</i>			
Normal ... ..	2	—	2
Educationally subnormal ... ..	11	7	18
Ineducable ... ..	4	2	6
Recommended for education in ordinary school ... ..	2	—	2
Recommended for education in a special class ... ..	9	5	14
Recommended for education in a special school... ..	2	2	4
Incapable of receiving education at school ... ..	4	2	6

(Report to Local Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts under Subsection 3 of Section 57 of Education Act, 1944)

*Epileptic pupils*

Number of children examined ...	1	-	1
Number recommended for hospital school ... ..	1	-	1

*Physically handicapped pupils*

Cardiac ... ..	3	-	3
Recommended for hospital school ...	1	-	1
Asthma ... ..	2	-	2
Recommended for hospital school ...	2	-	2

**Handicapped pupils in special schools**

	At end of 1946	Admitted during 1947	Discharged during 1947	No. at end of 1947
Educationally sub-normal	5	1	2	4
Blind or partially blind ...	5	1	1	5
Deaf or partially deaf ...	8	2	2	8
Epileptic ... ..	3	—	—	3
Physically handicapped ...	-	2	2	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>20</b>

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION**

The majority of children immunised for the first time against diphtheria in 1947 were under school age. 64 school children who had not been immunised in infancy received their first inoculations after entering school. 1199 school children received "booster" doses which are recommended every three or four years in order to keep the immunity at a high level.

Where practicable, special immunisation sessions are held at the schools, in addition to the regular sessions held at the various clinics in the Borough.

The following table shows the number of school children and children under school age who were immunised during the year. The figures for the preceding three years are also given for comparison.

	1944	1945	1946	1947
Number of children who were immunised for the first time—				
Under school age ... ..	871	940	895	1001
School age ... ..	257	142	75	64
Number of school children who received a " booster " dose ...	1110	1042	856	1199

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the incidence of notifiable infectious disease in school children compared with the total incidence at all ages during 1947 :—

	School children	All ages
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis and Polio-encephalitis ... ..	4	15
Scarlet Fever ... ..	46	63
Measles ... ..	360	882
Whooping Cough ... ..	61	219
Diphtheria ... ..	5	6
Pneumonia ... ..	11	62
Cerebrospinal fever ... ..	1	4
Dysentery ... ..	4	13
	<hr/> 492 <hr/>	<hr/> 1264 <hr/>

The incidence of diphtheria remained low. There were 5 cases notified in school children. Of these, 4 were confirmed, the other case proving to be a condition other than diphtheria. Two of the confirmed cases had not been immunised. There were no deaths.

The year 1947 was noteworthy for a country-wide outbreak of acute anterior poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis (infantile paralysis). Out of a total of 15 cases notified in Poole, only 4 cases occurred in school children. Of these, 3 were between the ages of 10 and 15 and one aged 6. There were no deaths.

There was also a rise in the incidence of scarlet fever at the end of the year, affecting mainly girls attending the Parkstone Grammar School. Altogether during the year there were 46 cases of this disease notified in school children.

There were 360 cases of measles notified during the year, compared with 533 the previous year.

### **X-Ray Clinic**

During the year 3 children were treated by x-ray for ringworm of the scalp.

### **Scabies**

A weekly clinic for the treatment of scabies is held at Burlea Towers, Parkstone Road, Poole. Patients are referred either by their own doctors or by the School Medical Officers and attend by appointment.

During 1947, 83 school children attended for treatment. Many of these required several treatments and altogether over 200 attendances were made.

### **Head Infestation**

Treatment of persistent or severe head infestation is also carried out at the Scabies Centre.

During 1947, 91 school children attended for cleansing and a number attended more than once during the year.

### **Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital, Swanage**

This hospital receive children convalescing from serious illness and debilitated children who require hygienic surroundings and medical supervision to restore them to normal health. School children are admitted on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer. During 1947 eight children were admitted.

### **Provision of Milk in schools**

Approximately 85% of the children took their daily allowance of milk. The allowance is one-third of a pint per scholar per day.

### **School Meals**

At September, 1947, the daily average number of mid-day meals being provided was 4,566. In certain cases of financial hardship meals were provided free of charge

### **Medical Examinations for Superannuation**

During the year 53 medical examinations of teachers and others were carried out by the school medical staff.



**HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN**

Section 48(3) of the Education Act 1944 required local education authorities to make arrangements for comprehensive facilities for free medical treatment to be made available to pupils attending any school or county college maintained by them.

Ministry of Education Circular 102 of 1946 laid down the basis for payments to voluntary hospitals and their visiting medical and surgical staffs.

In December, 1946, the local education authority approved a comprehensive hospital treatment scheme for school children after consultation with representatives of the hospitals concerned. Under this scheme the Dorset County Education Committee accepted financial responsibility for the treatment of any child in attendance at a maintained school, in any hospital in the county and in such hospitals outside the county as had agreed to the terms. These arrangements were made without prejudice to any other arrangements which would be introduced under the National Health Service Act which was then before Parliament. The arrangements continued throughout 1947 and payment was made retrospective to 1st April 1946.

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR DENTAL OFFICER FOR 1947.**

**Administration**

The Dental Staff was increased during 1947. A part-time dental surgeon continued to act as anaesthetist until 1st September, when an additional full-time Dental Surgeon and another Dental Assistant were appointed, bringing the staff up to three Dental Surgeons and three Dental Assistants.

**Dental Inspections**

<i>Dental Inspections</i>	<i>Primary Schools</i>	<i>Secondary Schools</i>	<i>Totals</i>
No. of Sessions ... ..	43	21	64
Total number of children inspected ... ..	4753	2303	7056
No. of children—			
With naturally sound teeth	803 16.9%	116 5.0%	919 13.1%
With artificially sound teeth ... ..	664 14.0%	791 34.4%	1455 20.6%
Not referred for treatment	767 16.1%	46 2.0%	813 11.5%
Referred for treatment	2519 53.0%	1350 58.6%	3869 54.8%



## Dental Treatment

	Primary		Secondary		Totals	Remarks
	Totals	Remarks	Totals	Remarks		
Number treated ...	2111	Acceptance 84%	869	Acceptance 65%	2980	Acceptance 77%
Specials treated ...	89		6		95	
Total treated ...	2200		875		3075	
Attendances ...	4479	2.04 per case	2384	2.7 per case	6863	2.23 per case
Fillings—Perm. Teeth ...	2190	1.03 per case	1969	2.25 per case	4159	1.35 per case
Temp. Teeth ...	81		2		83	
Extractions—Perm. ...	135	.06 per case	363	.4 per case	498	.13 per case
Temp. ...	2575	1.17 per case	177	.2 per case	2752	.89 per case
Anaesthetics—Local ...	1779		1210		2989	
General	1503		129		1632	
Other operations ...	2257		1976		4233	

Dental Sessions

	Primary	Secondary	TOTALS
Inspection sessions ...	43	21	64
Treatment sessions ...	510	321	831
Anaesthetic sessions ...	40	5	45
Orthodontic sessions ...	24	14	38
Administration sessions ...	27	22	49
Cases completed per session	3.7	Fillings per session	5.1
Attendances per session ...	8.2	Extractions per sess.	3.9



